

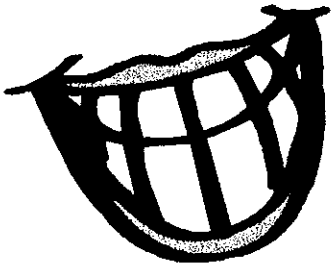
The Smith-Anderson Family
Reunion's

Blabbermouth



July 9, 10, & 11

Chicago © 1999



The Blabbermouth

Illinois news

Albert and Stephanye Coleman Family

Albert and Stephanye Coleman are the proud parents of two graduates this year. Their daughter Jahahn will graduate from Whitney Young Magnet School with a 4.3 GPA. She is a Principal's Scholar, a member of the National Honor Society, and secretary of the Future Business Leaders of America. Jahahn has been listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students for the last three years. In addition she was selected as an Illinois State Scholar and a National Achievement Finalist. She plans to attend Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana to major in accounting or finance.

Jonathan will graduate from Newberry Academy elementary school. He plans to attend Jones Academic Magnet High School in

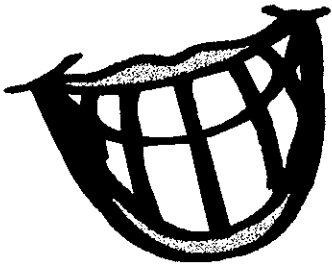
the fall. Jonathan believes in combining brains and brawn. He was a member of the Newberry Bobcats basketball team as well as the Academic Decathlon team, which placed second in the regional competition. He is also a member of the church youth group and an assistant patrol leader in the boy scouts. Albert and Stephanye, along with their children will celebrate these joyous events by vacationing in Cancun, Mexico.

Their other son Jeremy is counting down the days until he will be a civilian again. His five years with the U.S. Marine Corps will end next year in June. His plans for the future are undecided.

Ernestine and Wiley Wright Family

Wiley travels quite a bit and he is a big shot in bridge. He has been all over the U.S. playing and winning tournaments. He is well known in bridge and golf circles. He lost his mother in 1998.

Ernestine had a "great fall" down 13 stairs. Her housecoat caught on her house shoe. Although she was hospitalized for a week she is doing well. Doctors said that she



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shouldn't complain because it was lucky that she did not break her "neck". She is still convalescing. Cards and well wishes are welcome. She has already received over 172 cards.

Ernestine is a golden sorer in the AKA sorority she has been an AKA for 52 years. She is also the vice president of "the most popular club in Chicago", The Relaxers. Stine and Wiley are going on the jazz cruise in October. Thirteen steps can't stop them!

Carol Washington Family

Two more grands are graduating from high school. That makes five down and 11 to go! Kelly crossing over as a Delta and graduated last year from UIS with a masters in public administration.

Priscilla Coatney Family

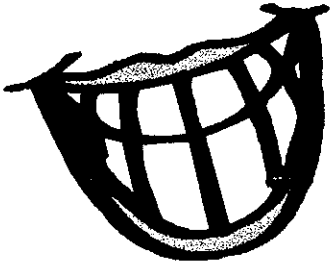
Shannon, Priscilla's oldest daughter, graduated from

Columbia College Chicago with a bachelor's in Journalism in January of 1998. With double honors in her concentration, magazine editing and production, mine you. She also landed a career building job with FMC Corporation in Chicago as a communications assistant working on writing, editing and designing publications for the company.

Shannon also wed Sterling F. Humphrey Jr. on September 20, 1998. They plan on taking a 1st -year anniversary trip to the Florida Keys in September.

Diana, Priscilla youngest daughter, is getting married on August 21 this year to VaShawn Lewis. She is planning as we speak. Diana is also in school to become a speech communications teacher. Only a few more years of school to go.

Priscilla is currently on loan to the Illinois State Board of Education and working with the department of Innovation and Change. William "Duke" celebrated his "Big 5-0" in June. He now wears reading glasses. Ask Shannon about his trip to the optometrist.



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Vivian Jean Rainey Family

Miss Vivian Jean is touring Great Britain with the Chicago Children's Choir – all expenses paid. She won't return until after the reunion, but sends warm regards and her love to everyone.

Daughter, Anna, was named "Student of the Year" by the Fine Arts department of Luther South High School. Dad, Anthony, tried keeping a step ahead of Anna being named "Teacher of the Year" by the Chicago Lutheran Educators.

Anna also made it to the finals of the "3 Point Shoot Out" in class A basketball in the Chicago Private Schools League.



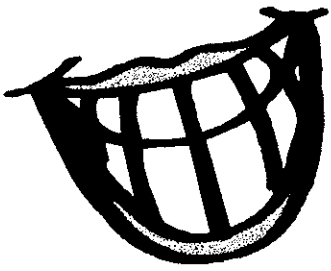
Smith and White Families

Myrtice Smith and Lois Ann White are retired a year now, and are enjoying it. They take aqua-cize 3 times a week to tone up their fat.

A couple of weeks ago, they went to Springfield to lobby for the senior citizens. And who did they see there, Duke (Priscilla's husband). He works for Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) and they too were lobbying.

Lois Ann is from Springfield so she was right at home. Lois and Myrt had lunch with Carol and Lawrence (Lois Ann's sister and brother-in-law) and had a wonderful time!!! These two can be seen gliding about all around town.

Shaughn Smith took her 5th grade class to Washington, DC. A good time was had by all. Last year she took them to Canada. Her school only goes up to 5th grade, so its like a send-off to Jr. high school. Shaughn is some kind of teacher. Good luck to all your endeavors.



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William Smith is still with the board driving his "little darlings" to and from school he enjoys it, it keeps him young.

Harrison Lawlersmith, son of Susan Smith, just completed his first year of pre-K with perfect attendance. In addition to completing school, Harrison is traveling with his mommy Susan. They went on their first cruise via the Disney Magic Cruise Ship. A great time was had by Harrison, who often comments on needing another vacation to relieve his "stress".

Harrison's plate is full, he just completed the first eight weeks of Spanish class, which resumes in a couple of weeks. To add to his Saturday activities he will be taking swimming. Mommy wants him in music lessons too, but she is being careful not to overrun his plate of activities.

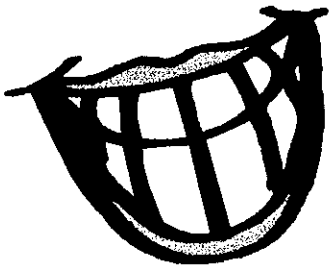
This summer he is enrolled in the reading program at the Robbins

library. The goal is to read 30 books. This is not a big task for him because Harrison wants three or four books read to him daily. To date, 15 books have been read and the program is only in its second week.

During the school year, Harrison kept his mommy, granny and daddy busy with fund raising and the FAST program (Families and School Together). FAST met for 8 weeks on Thursday night. Now FAST WORKS is in place, which is a gathering of FAST families on a monthly basis. He loves it. Mommy is tired, but that's what mommies do.

Harrison has a busy social life with birthday parties. The weekend after the reunion is his 4th annual pool party at his home where he's the host of his posse of five. However, this year the party will consist of some of his classmates. As always his granny and granddaddy will prepare the meal.

Donald and Yakima White, (Herman and Lois Ann's son and daughter-in-law) who married in September 1996, are now the proud parents of their first child, a baby girl, Daina Shawnee', born July 30, 1998.



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Lois Ann retired last June, so did cousin Myrtice. Both retired with 30+ years as educators. They have become closer than sisters and thick as thieves. Tuesdays through Fridays they have a full schedule from 8-4:30 or later. They are involved in many activities to name a just a few – swimming aerobics, square dancing, line dancing, breakfast outings 2 days per week, lunch at least once a week, choral singing, bible study, movies, concerts, plays, gambling boat goers, shopping companions, visiting the sick and shut-in – plus most of the preparations for our family reunion, attending cotillions and graduations of family members, etc., etc., etc.

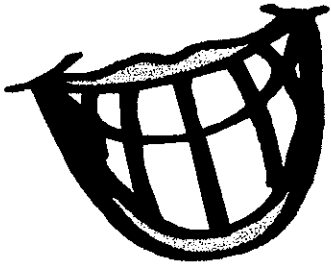
Oh, they do leave Saturday-Monday open for their loving hubbies Herman and William. "What would you like dear?"

Carla Jo White-Freeman Family

Jamie, 9 years and Jasmin, 7 years have once again received honors for their academics. Both of them have been on the honor roll since kindergarten. Jasmin also received a trophy for perfect attendance. Jamie received her second metal for participating in the spelling bee and also received a citizenship award. She also had been inducted into the Principal's Scholars Program. The University of Illinois-Chicago has invited Jamie to take classes in math and science this fall.

One more thing about Jamie and Jasmin, they made their first debut recently as "Blossoms" in the Wesley UMC cotillion. Both little Blossoms were spiritually, morally and intellectually aware of their responsibilities as young African-American ladies.

Look out Smith-Anderson's and the world because these Smith's want to be a Judge (Jasmin) and a Scientist (Jamie). OK, enough about those busy bodies. Let's list what their parents have done.



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Carla was nominated for the Kohl-McCormick Early Childhood best teacher award.

Note from Carla:

Have a great time here in Chicago and may the peace of the Lord be with you until we meet again. Always remember that Jesus loves you.

Prayers for the family:

Sick: Vivian Haynes but she is better; Van Smith, we wish him a speedy recovery; Ernestine Wright, we miss you hurry and get well. Death: Walter Edwards, our condolences to his wife Odessa and family; Marteen Wright's family, our sympathy.

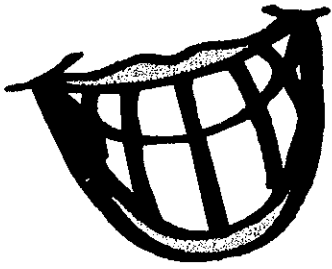
WALTER MAYS FAMILY

And now for the latest on Walter Davis' first (does someone out there know something that I don't know?) grandson Walter Leon and the Mays Revolution:

To begin, Walter's (me) wife,

Cecilia, now works for the University of Chicago as a project manager for a research program that is studying and developing methods to combat the diabetes epidemic in the African-American community, specifically that occurring within the African-American female population. She is very excited with the opportunity and potential of the program and its benefit to the study population. I think she has a personal interest in the project far beyond the income. She and I have spent much of my wages on our home, to wit; we have added a sunroom and a deck to the rear of the house and had the back yard landscaped by our cousin Britt Savage (a member of the Williams family). Ya'll have to come by and see. I am still employed at the Bahá'í National Center in Wilmette, Illinois as Operations Manager for Maintenance.

Walter Jr. is still with the Saturn and Amway Corporations. Vera has an excellent position with a company that I do not know the name of or what they do or produce. Walter III – Trey – is involved in everything including baseball and school and his sister, Tiffany is doing likewise and studying dance.



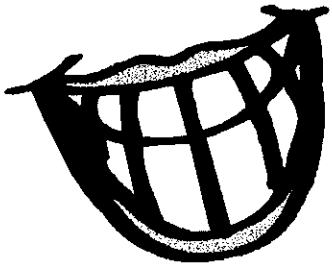
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Brian Anthony (Tony) is working at two or three schools teaching and coaching. He was also recently promoted to the rank of Major in the Army Reserves. Shernita, his wife, is now teaching at the school that I first attended in Chicago, McCosh Elementary. Briana is now in 2nd grade and Brian Jr. has another year to go before starting.

Michael Devon is now stationed at Beale Air Force Base in Sacramento, California. He is a fiber optics installer and instructor and a technical sergeant. Dora Bernice (Bernie) is in the counseling field and is working on her doctorate. Carmon is becoming quite the young woman and an athlete and will be going to high school in a couple of years. Cryston is attending school year round in a program she has and other students in her "track" in class three months and out for a month. Why wasn't that around when I was young?

Richard Ian a, Staff Sergeant in the Air Force, has been stationed in God's country, Minot North Dakota, at Minot Air Force Base serving as a medical technician. Sean, Richard's wife and also a Staff Sergeant, is a journalist with the base paper and the mother of two of my grandchildren, Tatiana and Marcus two of the youngest members of the Mays association. Richard's son Ian, the oldest member of the grandchildren (I think, or is Carmon the oldest?) is living in New Orleans with his mother Lana.

Gregg Aaron, who was also recently promoted to Major in the Army, is for the moment stationed in Monterey, California attending a military language/diplomat school. When not attending to military matters Gregg teaches and coaches young people in tennis. Gregg played the game while matriculating at Florida A and M. Gregg and family will be departing in August for a return assignment to South Korea, which is the home of his wife Son Hui, and they will be living close to his in-laws. Candice, their daughter, was born in Georgia so between them they have the world covered in terms of where they settle



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upon Gregg's retirement.

Leola Medcalf Family

Gradis Jr. and Myra work at Northwestern hospital. Gradis is a Ward Sec and Myra is an extern student nurse.

The Grandchildren

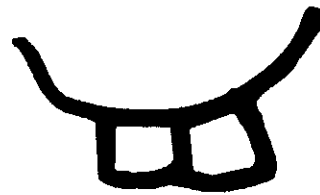
- ❖ Kim and Kiila Jr., Leolas oldest daughter, had a baby boy 11-25-98, which was also Leola's 37th wedding anniversary
- ❖ Kee Kee went last fall to Illinois State University in Normal to college.
- ❖ Won King has two jobs this summer to pay for his car.
- ❖ Paris graduated from high school and will be attending SIU in Edwardsville.
- ❖ Sabrina is a high-school junior

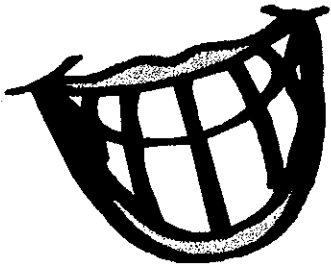
and will continue in her career as a stripette (cheerleader).

- ❖ Jade will return to head start in the fall.

Leola ran out of money and went back to work. She is working at a Christian School with Pre-K-8

Ro, Michael's wife, the professional student, is still in school. Now she is working on Computer Engineering.





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Atlanta News

Matthew and Helaina Triche Family

Baby News!

Jessica Taylor Triche, born Sunday, August 30, 1998 to proud parents Matthew and Helaina Triche.

According to the family, Jessica came a little early (weighing 4 pounds, 6 ½ ounces). Now she's 17 pounds and is 24 ½ inches long. Jessica is truly their "precious little gift" from God.

Maryland News

ETTA J. SMITH-WAUGH Family

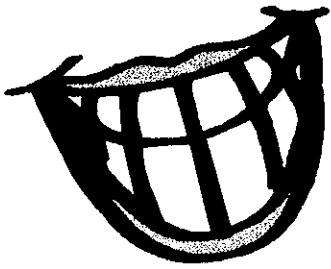
Natasha Waugh fulfilled her dream and was pinned into the Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority in April. She joined the ranks of the Zeraline Verner family of legacy AKA's. She wants her mother, Etta to join starting a legacy reversal process.

Etta Smith-Waugh answered the call for chaperone and accompanied Perry Jr. and 30 people on the trip of a lifetime to the "Holy Land" in May. They visited Israel "walking where Jesus walked" and spent one day in Cairo, Egypt. Plan on spending some time with her if you ask her to see the pictures. She has an album of pictures and other memorabilia on the trip.

Dan Smith Jr. turned the big "Five-O" (50) in April. He came to DC to celebrate with family and friends. When the school year ended, he vacationed in Paris, France and Athens, Greece. Kinda nice to turn 50, huh?

How do you celebrate turning 65? Try giving yourself a birthday party and inviting 500+ people. Perry Jr. did it. Life begins "again" at 65!





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CALIFORNIA NEWS

Vera Anderson Ford Family

Vera is still active with youth sports and has been president of Baldwin Hills football association for four terms. Because she has that winning touch, all of the teams won conference championships. Believe it or not – not one team lost a game. And not cutting any slack, the girls' cheerleading team won a place in a recent cheerleading competition. You go Vera!

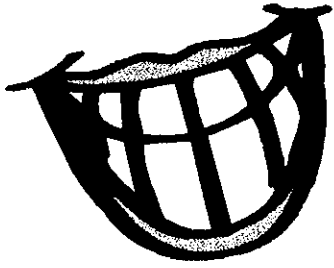
Nicole Ford, James Jr.'s daughter, is newly active in little league. She has already shooting for stardom, just like Sammy Sosa, having two home runs under her belt!

Ezell recently was promoted to the rank of E7 (Master Sergeant). He is in Heidleberg, Germany and is assigned to NATO. He is scheduled to go to Macedonia in July. Remember him in your prayers.

Kelly Smith Family

The biggest news is the illness and passing of Adena's husband, Mateen. A year after completing treatment for a malignant tumor in his cervical (neck) spine and being given a clean bill of health, tumors resurfaced in his brain. Mateen had a very good year (May, 1997 - October, 1998). He was happy, healthy, active, feeling good, full of life, enthusiastic about his future, counting his blessings, laughing a lot (and loudly), loving friends and family. In October, he started showing neurological symptoms and on November was diagnosed with brain cancer. Mateen began radiation therapy shortly thereafter. On Thanksgiving night, he had an unexpected seizure and went into a coma. He remained in the Intensive Care Unit in a coma until he died on December 10. Adena, all four of their children, his brother and nephew were with him when he passed. He was 46 years old.

Mateen was prepared for burial by his brothers, nephew and sons in accordance with the Muslim tradition and subsequently



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cremated. His memorial service drew from Christianity, Islam, West Africa and non-traditional practices. It was very moving - especially the testimonials which were mostly from physician colleagues, but included a 16 year old classmate of Atiba's. She spoke to him of her experience losing her grandfather.

We also had a Kwanzaa Celebration of Mateen's Life, which was attended by over 200 people. Since we have been observing Kwanzaa for 19 years, it seemed fitting to celebrate in this way. There were verbal, musical and dance tributes; a film of Mateen's life; drummers; an incredible meal and everyone up on their feet for a "second line" in the New Orleans tradition. What a celebration!

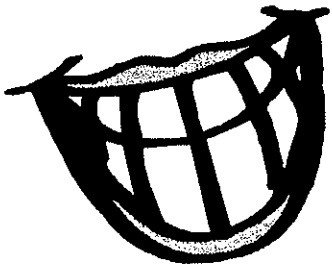
The New Year has brought many adjustments. With support from family and friends, we are slowly moving through the grieving process, knowing that life goes on.

We are learning what it means to have Mateen with us in spirit and there is lots of laughter between the tears.

Accomplishments

Malika (Habeeba), Adena's oldest, has had quite a start to her career. Since she graduated from Spelman in 1997, she has been employed as a business analyst for the international consulting firm, AT Kearney. She is based in Alexandria Virginia, but travels 80% of the time. Her first assignment was in Plano, Texas to which she commuted weekly for almost a year. Needless to say, this started wearing thin. She was relieved when her next assignment took her near her brother and other relatives in the Detroit area. But the big relief came from having been assigned to Jamaica and the Grand Caymans for a few months. This, too, lost its glamour with the reality of being at work and not at play in the islands! !

Malika has decided that it is time for a change and will be leaving the Washington, D.C. area in August to relocate to the Los Angeles area to be near mom and "little" brother, Atiba. Her fiancée will be joining her in the move. She has also decided to



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change careers, or at least industries. She wants to make decisions that enrich the lives of children (rather than lines the pockets of corporations). She has begun a job search in Southern California. Any leads?

More news from Adena

Education:

Shakura, Adena's second daughter, is entering her last year at Kinnesaw State University near Atlanta. She is preparing to teach computer science to Middle School Students. She plans to go straight to graduate school upon graduation.

Chinua (Emani), Adena's oldest son, completed his first year at the University of Michigan. One of his greatest challenges was transitioning from the warm Southern California Climate to the frigid Michigan winters. In November, he called to say "Mom, it's thirty degrees. I'm colder than I've ever been...and I've got thirty

degrees to go!" He survived, did very well academically and is looking forward to his return in the Fall. He's studying to become a journalist.

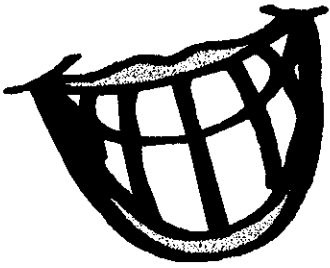
Accomplishments:

Behold the marathoners!

Alice C. Smith Key participated in the Los Angeles Marathon on March 14th, 1999 with her daughter Adena! Alice completed the 26.2 miles in 7 hours, 3 minutes and 14 seconds. She placed 27th in her age group!

Adena completed it in six hours 15 minutes and was 303 in her division and 12,970th overall. Not bad for our first marathon.

We started preparing for the marathon in August with a special training program that gradually increased walking times and distance. When she was in town, Alice trained with Adena at 7 a.m. on Saturday mornings at the beach, in addition to several mid-week daily "runs". When she was in Nashville, Alice trained on weekdays in malls. Both participated in shorter races (5k's, 10k's, half-marathons, 15k's) to get race-experience before the actual marathon.



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All of that training was worth it. There were over 20,000 participants and hundreds of thousands of spectators cheering us on. The LA marathon goes through most of the ethnic neighborhoods in the city and is awesome to participate in.

Our strongest supporters were family members who flew in or drove down to cheer, squirt, and feed and carry us along the way. Kelly's daughters (Sharanda and Valerie); his grandson, Evan; Adena's children (Malika, Shakura, Emani, Atiba); and their friends battled the crowds to see that their grandmother, mother or aunt make it across the finish line.

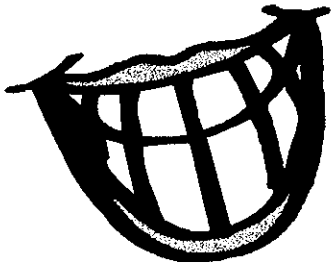
After the race, Alice and Adena recuperated with warm baths, massages and by only walking or for that matter moving when absolutely necessary. Our most surprising repercussion was the loss of toenails during the weeks immediately following the race!

With the marathon behind them, Adena's and Alice's amateur days are over. They have taken up race-walking as a sport and are training with a coach to compete as part of a team.

Travel:

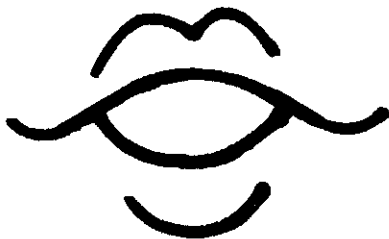
Last August, Adena and Mateen spent a heavenly week in Nassau, Bahamas. We rented a condo on the beach, swam (well, floated) every day, jet skied, parasailed (thirty feet in the air, attached to a parachute and being pulled by a boat), cruised and partied with the Omegas, celebrated his birthday with friends. It was a wonderful second honeymoon. (Mateen was fine, we had no idea this would be his last vacation and birthday - a reminder not to put off the 'good times' too long, you never know!)

Alice Smith Key, Adena, Kelly, Sue and Valerie Lin will be cruising next week in the Caribbean. They are scheduled for a five-day cruise from Florida to the Grand Cayman and Ocho Rios, Jamaica. Next year we'll tell you all about it!



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Adena Smith Wright and her youngest son, Atiba spent spring break in Brooklyn, New York visiting with Adena's sister, Joy. Joy is an actress/storyteller in New York. Unfortunately, they arrived shortly after her play closed and they missed her performance. But, this gave Joy free time to spend with them and show them her beloved (though wild and crazy) New York. Highlights of the trip included meeting Joy's boyfriend, Eric and having dinner and spending time with Aunt Zeraline and the rest of the Verner clan in New Jersey.



Mississippi News

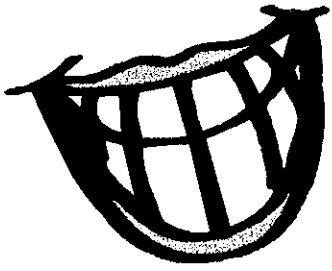
Cox Family

TRAVEL

Ruth J., the world traveler, with a non-driver's identification, flew to San Jose', CA March 26, 1999 to attend the Women's NCAA Division I, Final Four. This was truly an enjoyable trip. To see Carolyn Peck, the Purdue Boilermakers Coach, walk in the Arena was a thrill, not to mention her coaching style. You may or may not know but Carolyn Peck is the first African American woman to reach this pinnacle--win the National Championship in Division I Women's basketball. She is now the General Manager/Coach for the Orlando Miracles of the WNBA.

AWARDS

LaDonne Cohea Cox, daughter of Paula, granddaughter of Ruth J., has re-entered school after a period of 5 1/2 years. As you may recall last year we informed you of her attempting to re-enter. It is now a reality. LaDonne received awards in Algebra II, Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, US



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History and Physical Education.

LaDonne plans to graduate from East Side High School, Cleveland, MS, May 18, 2000, 8:00 p.m. Waiter Sillers Coliseum, Delta State University, Cleveland, MS. BE THERE!

Robert Bass, Jr., son of Darryl and Julia, grandson of Ruth J., received trophies, certificates, and a pin during the seventh grade promotion exercise at McEvans Elementary School, Shaw, MS.

Robert received trophies for the following:
Salutatorian
Triple Honor Roll
Outstanding student in Research
Top 7th grade Math student
Top Integrated Science student
Top Social Studies student

Certificates /Pin

Hunter Education
White House President Education Award Program--Pin

Regional Science and Engineering Fair
Completion of 7th grade

A-Science

A-Social Studies

A-Math

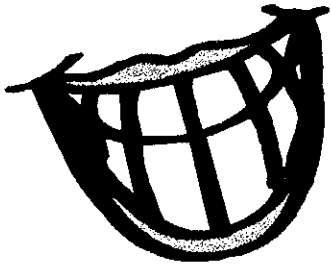
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK JR!!!!!!

MARRIAGE-TENTH WONDER OF THE WORLD

Darryl, son of Ruth J., recently joined in matrimony with Julia Bass on May 15, 1999. CONGRATULATIONS DARRYL & JULIA SMITH!!!!

Pauline Martin Family

Pamela Martin, daughter of Pauline Martin is pleased to announce the birth of another grandson, Xavier Paul Martin. Xavier is the son of Marlon Martin. He was born on April 27, 1999 in Little Rock, Arkansas. He weighed 6 lbs. and 8 oz and his length 19.5 inches. Xavier is doing fine and he and his brother, Khalil are keeping the Mississippi group BUSY!!!



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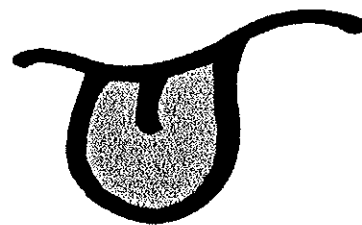
Merwyn Cole, son of Charles and Millicent and grandson of Pauline Martin of Renova, MS, missed the 1998 Mississippi Reunion to participate in the USA Junior Nationals East Region Finals in Columbus, Ohio, where he was named MVP of the team from Mississippi.

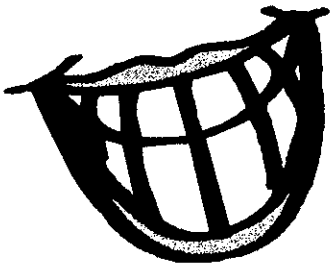
Merwyn was named a Mississippi Finalist for the Wendy's High School Heisman and was honored at a luncheon in December at the MS Hall of Fame and Museum in Jackson, MS. The speakers for the occasion were Dave Thomas, Wendy's founder and Tommy Bowden, Clemson University head football coach. There were over 900 nominees and Merwyn was one of 22 state finalists.

At the recently held Cleveland High School Athletic Banquet, Merwyn was named MVP in football and basketball and was named Best Offensive Player in baseball. He was also the recipient of three of

the special awards given annually: the Sam Langston Memorial Award (Most Athletic), the Sank Powe Award (All-Around Athlete), and the Patrick Livingston Memorial Scholarship Award (highest academic average on basketball team).

Merwyn has signed a scholarship to play baseball at MDCC in Moorhead, MS. He was also selected to play on the Mississippi All-Star basketball team in Jackson, MS on July 24, 1999. Merwyn was honored at the Cleveland High School Academic Awards Night as an inductee into the CHS Hall of Fame and the "C" Club. He graduated with honors from Cleveland High School on May 20, 1999.





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New Jersey News

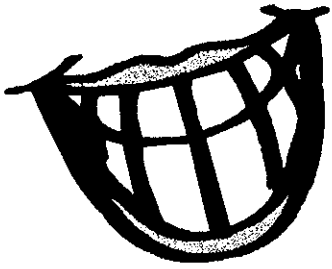
Verner Family

Edward and Zeraline Verner celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 22nd, 1998. Their children took them out for a sumptuous meal and showered them with wonderful gifts. Among the gifts were tickets to Orlando, Florida for more celebrations hosted by long time friend Leola Means and their children Marilyn and Dan Powell. Their children and grandchildren from New Jersey, Mabel Blair and Parthenia Smith were among the celebrants. Mrs. Mean's daughter, Janice, her retired nurse friends and church associates joined the celebrations that included pool parties, out of this world meals and photo sessions.

Gwen (one of Z and Ed's twin daughters) recently made a cameo appearance on the "Leeza" show

out in L.A. She was one of many African-American women who were unjustly detained and strip searched at Chicago's O'Hare airport in the custom's division on her return from Africa in 1994. One of Chicago's finest news reporters, Renee Ferguson, is the reason for Gwen's celebrity status. The interviews which she taped last year in Chicago, and have aired around the country (as a result of one of the women calling the station and telling her story to Renee) have gained momentum and created a stir in legislative circles. None of this would have been possible without the diligent and watchful eye of cousin Priscilla Coatney who has actively assisted her cousin Gwen in seeking justice for the gross violations she encountered at O'Hare. Love and thanks to you Priscilla! God Bless!

Dan, Marilyn and Nathan Powell proudly announce the arrival of an addition to their family. His name is Andrew Stellmon Powell. Andrew was born October 27, 1998 weighing 7lbs. 16oz. and arrived at the Powell's home on April 28, 1999.



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Tennessee NEWS

Kelly Smith Jr. Family

Kelly Jr. - Blessed to see another year, will be celebrating 44 years of life on 11th of July. He also has been laboring very hard at the Mt. Olive church in Knoxville for 8 years now. He keeps himself busy by staying on the road almost weekly and has begun minor renovations to the church building.

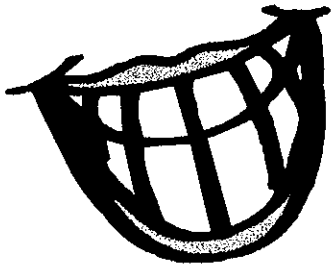
Sue - Blessed to see another year, still going back and forth between Atlanta and Knoxville. Commuting is getting very permanent now with the purchase of a condo down in Peachtree City, Ga, south of the airport.

Before I can get home good to Knoxville, the first question is "when are you leaving." Anyway, Kelly and Sue will try to take 2 trips in July that will require them to spend two weeks together all at once. First is a 5 day cruise to Grand Cayman Island and Ocho Rios, Jamaica, (The Carnival,

Imagination). Then we unpack and repack for a week trip to Frankfurt, Germany. Kelly Jr. will be teaching a course, "The History of the Christian Church" to Black Baptists in Germany, many of whom are a part of the military.

Sharanda - Another year, blessed to see it, (another job) . . . Sharanda now holds the job titled Licensor for a record company called BMI. She has stated that if you ever want to get into this type of business this is the company to work for. (Cousin Eddie Verner confirmed that this is true it is a reputable company and its at the top.) She also is a (long-term) student and picked up a part-time job at night. Oh, did I forget, she also has Evan; he is 2 yrs old.

Valerie - Blessed to see another year as well, she, after working for UPS for over 5 years, decided that they were not smart enough to realize and/or utilize her talents, so she decided to turn in her resignation notice and has accepted and began a new job with Deloitte and Touche as a junior analyst. She plans to learn as much as possible about technology as this is the way of the future. Valerie has also completed 1 year in the



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Master's program at TSU and this past semester she received a 4.0 . .

Lamont - (Valerie's husband)
Blessed and Blessed. Lamont finished his final year at TSU in May and graduated with a degree in Architectural Engineering. He landed a job, with a little of the "who you know" theory, (thanks Kelly Jr.) along with good grades and discipline. He is working for an architectural firm right outside of Nashville and is doing just fine and loves his job. He continues to amaze his superiors on his daily accomplishments.

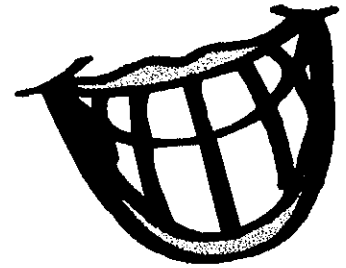
Kelly III - Blessed to see another day, Thank you Lord!!! Morehouse has invited him back next year, Thank you Lord again!! Kelly will be a rising Junior, majoring in Chemical Engineering. He decided to do the right thing and pledge Alpha Phi Alpha crossing over a few months ago. He landed a summer internship (again from the school of "who you know," along

with good grades and discipline) at Lockheed Martin Energy Systems. He apparently is building Web pages and training others to use them. He is also taking an Organic Chemistry at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, in order to get ahead of the game. He says that his dual degree at Morehouse and Georgia Tech will take him about 6 yrs. (You did not hear this from me but his parents only plan to pay for 4 yrs) Kelly III may be in luck anyway because he was chosen with 14 other students across the country to receive a full tuition scholarship from Duracell Battery. He and those parents of his will travel all expenses paid to Houston, TX on 8/7-8/8 to receive this prestigious award. By this award was applied for through the Urban League. Go Kelly . . . (although we were very worried about your grades during your pledging you still managed to pull off over 3.2 average)

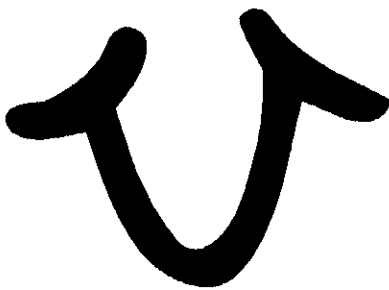
Evan - Remember Sharanda, He belongs to her.

Kyra - While taking gymnastics on Saturdays at the Gymboree store she now knows how to slide down any slide face first . . . Who

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cares if there are rocks at the bottom . . . (ouch)



WASHINGTON DC NEWS

Perry A. Smith, III

Marriage- No!

Divorce- No?!

**Accomplishments-(Honors,
Graduation, Promotion,
Demotion)**

- ❖ Counseled and prayed on numerous occasions with the President of the United States during his recent trials.
- ❖ Now call me Doctor, according the Howard University Divinity

School.

Retirement-

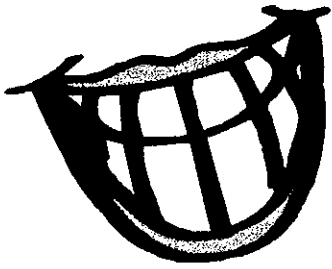
- ❖ Traveled to California in November to perform the marriage ceremony for "little" Ronnie.
- ❖ Traveled to San Diego and Tiajuana, Mexico with Barbara and Marion. WOW, what a trip!
- ❖ Spent a week in Myrtle Beach in a very deluxe townhouse overlooking a golf course and had a ball.
- ❖ In February, I began final plans for our tour of Israel and Egypt. I took with me some 33 persons. Had a tremendous trip in May for 10 days, and plans are already on the way for May of 2001 for another trip to Egypt and other points of African and the Middle East.

Police Report -None.

Family Addition-None

Any other 'juicy' inf.

- ❖ In December I thought about getting married but as soon as I woke up from a sound sleep, I decided it wasn't the year to do it.
- ❖ I am continuing to lead our congregation toward breaking ground for a new



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Worship,

- ❖ Our Christian Education & office Complex, at a cost of approximately 4 million dollars, is scheduled to begin in 2000.
- ❖ The month of May found me in the hospital again for surgery to repair a tear in the rotator cuff and bone deformity in my right shoulder. Natasha became my baby-sitter. I developed tremendous skill with using my left hand for writing (as if I could write with my right hand).

Jokes

Mommy How Old Are You?

Eight-year-old little Mary and her mother are walking through the mall together one day. "Mommy," says the little Mary, "how old are you?" "Darling, you should never ask a woman what her age is." "Why not?" demands the child. "Well, that is something you will understand one day when you're

grown-up."

"Mommy," asks Mary again, "how much do you weigh?"

"Never mind," answers the mother.

"Why can't you tell me?"

"Because grown-ups never talk about how much they weigh. This is something you will learn and understand someday."

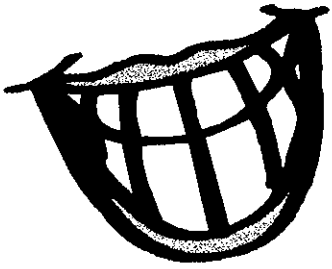
"Mommy," insists the child, "can you tell me why you and Daddy got divorced?"

"Darling," responds the mother in exasperation, "that's something still very painful for Mommy, and I really just can't talk about it now."

A few days later, Little Mary recounts this conversation to a friend at school. The friend explains how to overcome these problems... "All you have to do is get your mother's driver's license.

It has all the information about any grown-up you want on it. You just read it like a report card and it'll give you anything you need,"

So little Mary does as her friend recommended. That night she



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sneaks into her mother's room while her mom was cooking dinner. She rummages through her purse and finds the drivers license. After examining it carefully she walks up to her mother and says, "I know how old you are! You are 35!"

The mother is very surprised.

"And, I know how much you weigh. You weigh 136 pounds, right?"

The mother is shocked.

"And, I know why you and Daddy got a divorce."

The mother, dumb founded asked, "Why?"

"It's because you got an F in sex."

--Kelly Smith

Valuable pig

A traveling salesman walks up to a farmer. Looking for an opening to begin his pitch the salesman notices a three- legged pig in the barnyard

"That's a mighty interesting animal you have there"

The farmer answers YUP you just don't know the half of it"

"Last fall I was plowing the north forty when the tractor flipped and pinned me underneath".

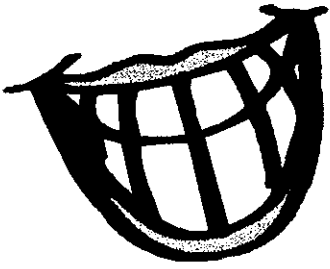
"Thought I was a goner, but that pig sensing me in danger, broke out the pen raced across the north forty and dragged me to safety".

"Wow!" said the salesman, "that is amazing, is that how he lost his leg?"

Farmer replied "heck no!, but when you have a pig this valuable you eat him one leg at a time."

--Paul E. Rayon





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TOP TEN REASONS GOD CREATED EVE

10. God worried that Adam would always be lost in the garden because men hate to ask for directions.

9. God knew that Adam would one day need someone to hand him the remote. (Men don't want to see what's ON television, they want to see WHAT ELSE is on!)

8. God knew that Adam would never buy a new fig leaf when his seat wore out and would therefore need Eve to get one for him.

7. God knew that Adam would never make a doctor's appointment for himself.

6. God knew that Adam would never remember which night was garbage night.

5. God knew that if the world was to be populated, men would never be able to handle childbearing.

4. As "Keeper of the Garden," Adam would never remember where he put his tools.

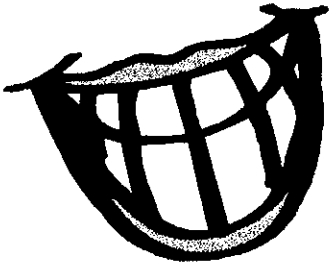
3. The scripture account of creation indicates Adam needed someone to blame his troubles on when God caught him hiding in the garden.

2. As the Bible says, "it is not good for man to be alone!"

AND THE NUMBER ONE REASON IS

1. When God finished the creation of Adam, He stepped back, scratched His head and said, "I can do better than that."





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A Few Black History Facts

On May 11, 1976, the Villa Lewaro in Greenburgh, New York, was designated a national historic landmark. Villa Lewaro had been the home of African-American millionaire Madame C. J. Walker. The 32-room Italian-style mansion located on the Hudson River in Irvington, was built before World War I at a cost of \$250,000 – enormously expensive for the time. The home was designed and built by Vertner Woodson Tandy, the first African-American architect to be registered in the state of New York.

On the first of January 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, bringing it into force on this day. The document declared that slaves in states that had rebelled against the Union were "then, thenceforward, and forever free," and provided for African-American soldiers to enlist in the Union Army and Navy during the Civil War.

Crowds in the North had waited with anticipation the signing of the Proclamation, which ignited what was known as the Year of Jubilee.

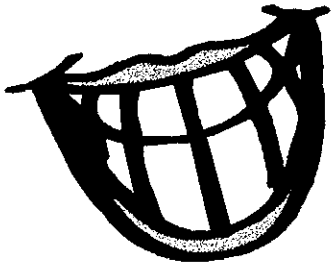
May 7th

"Campaigning in Free Verse," an article about Jesse Jackson's bid for the 1984 Democratic presidential nomination, appeared in the May 7, 1984 issue of Time magazine. Jackson was the first African-American to be taken seriously as a contender for a major political party nomination. In the 1984 primary elections, Jackson received 2.5 million black votes and 800,000 non-black votes, which included 10 percent of the total white primary vote. He ran again in 1988, this time garnering 20 percent of the white primary vote.

Presidential scholar James Barber said (in the words of author Robert C. Smith): "While the other candidates were making news, Jackson was making history."

January 13th

On this day in 1966, Dr. Robert Weaver was appointed by President Linden B. Johnson to head the newly created Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).



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Weaver was the first African-American in history to serve in a presidential cabinet. "I want the job," Weaver was known to have said to insiders, "but damn if I'll ask for it!" As the director of HUD, Weaver oversaw 9,000 employees and approximately \$4.5 billion in annual expenditures.

March 30th

The 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which had been ratified on February 3, went into effect on this day in 1870. The amendment extended the right to vote to all males, regardless of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude." The next day Thomas Peterson became the first African-American to exercise his new constitutional right.

May 17th

On this day in 1954, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its decision in the historical case of Brown vs. Board of Education of

Topeka. Chief Justice Earl B. Warren read the Court's decision"

Does segregation of children in public schools solely on the base of race, even though the physical facilities and other "tangible" factors may be equal, deprive the children of the minority group of equal education opportunities?

We believe it does

On **January 2, 1990**, David Norman Dinkins began his first day as mayor of New York City with a 7:00 a.m. appearance on NBC-TV's Today show. After defeating former mayor Ed Koch in the September Democratic primaries and then, by a small margin, beating Republican Rudolph Giuliani in the general election, Dinkins had become the first African-American mayor of America's largest city.

