

# Punch Ballots Sidetrack California Recall Election

## Decision faces appeal to U S Supreme Court

(AP)—A federal appeals court in San Francisco threw California's tumultuous recall campaign into complete turmoil Monday, postponing the Oct. 7 election because several counties planned to use the punch-card ballots that made such a mess in Florida three years ago.

The decision by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is certain to be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, putting the jus-

tics in a position to influence yet another monumental election.

The three-judge panel did not set a new date for the recall election, but backed a suggestion from the American Civil Liberties Union that the balloting be held during the March 2 presidential primary.

"It is virtually undisputed that ... punch-card voting systems are significantly more prone to errors that result in a voter's ballot not being counted than the other voting systems used in California," the judges wrote.

The 9th Circuit is the nation's largest and most liberal federal appeals court. It was the 9th Circuit



California governor Gray Davis (left) and Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante attend a school dedication honoring former president Bill Clinton in Compton, Calif. A court decision Monday postponed the governor's recall election until March. (AP photo)

last year that declared the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance in public schools unconstitutional because of the words "under God."

Monday's ruling was the last of about a dozen legal challenges to the attempt to unseat Democratic Gov. Gray Davis. Several candidates are running to replace him, including Democratic Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, action star Arnold Schwarzenegger and conservative state Sen. Tom McClintock.

Davis would probably benefit the most from the ruling if the election were held in March, because the presidential primary is expected to bring a large number of Democrats to the polls. It could also give

Davis more time to address the state's budget crisis and force Schwarzenegger, the GOP front-runner, into a longer campaign.

The appeals court unanimously ruled it is unacceptable that six California counties would be using outdated punch-card ballots - the same system at the center of the recount furor that erupted in Florida after the 2000 presidential election.

The six counties include the state's most populous, Los Angeles, as well as Sacramento and San Diego counties. Altogether they contained 44 percent of California's registered voters during the 2000 election.

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## Sickle Cell Telethon Saturday

The Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation of Oregon will hold its 12th Annual Sickle Cell Telethon Saturday, Sept. 20, from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the MCTV studio.

Sickle Cell Disease affects over 70,000 Americans and over 350 babies die each year because they go undiagnosed and treated.

The disease is hereditary causing frequent bouts of pain and shortens the life span of its victims. Though the disease affects primarily Blacks, Hispanics, Greeks, Sicilians, Puerto Ricans, Asians and other populations, it is also found in many Caucasians.

Those wishing to donate may call 503-491-7500 or 503-249-1366. The telethon will feature both live and recorded entertainment.

Those wishing to participate in the event, receive further information or be tested for the disease, should call 503-249-1366.



Toni Morrison

(AP)—Nobel laureate Toni Morrison is working on a children's book about Brown v. Board of Education, the Supreme Court's landmark ruling against segregation.

"Remember: A Pictorial Tribute to the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court Decision" will be published in 2004, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the court's unanimous order for

## Morrison Writing Book on Segregation

public schools to be integrated.

"Ms. Morrison has collected a treasure chest of archival black-and-white photographs that depict the historical events surrounding the Supreme Court case and school desegregation," publisher Houghton Mifflin said.

"These unforgettable images serve as the inspiration for Ms. Morrison's text - an imaginative rendering of the dialogue and emotions of the children who lived during the era of separate-but-equal schooling," the statement said.

Morrison is best known for novels such as "Sula," "Song of Solomon" and the Pulitzer Prize-winning "Beloved." She has also worked on the children's books "The Big Box" and "The Book of Mean People."

**ANNUAL SICKLE CELL ANEMIA TELETHON**

Call in your Pledge - make a Challenge!

Proceeds benefit The Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation of Oregon.  
 For More Information, call (503) 249-1366

**Call (503) 491-7500**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20th**  
**4:00—9:00 pm**  
**Channels 21 and 11**

Held at MCTV, 26000 S.E. Stark (Mt. Hood Community College Campus) Refreshments!

## Countries of Africa Liberia: The Oldest Republic in Africa

BY RON WEBER  
 THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Once considered Africa's most prosperous, stable, and peaceful country, Liberia is one of only two countries on the continent that were not colonized by a European country.

Freed African-American slaves such as Marcus Garvey sailed to Liberia and founded a country of their own. The republic of Liberia remained for over 130 years, until 1980 when it was overthrown during a military coup. Since then, political unrest and continuous insurrections have kept the country in a constant state of turmoil.

Liberia President Charles Taylor recently resigned under allegations that he was behind the killings of thousands of Liberians over the past few years. The United States has sent in a peacekeeping force hoping to help the country rebuild itself.

Around the 15th Century, gold, spices and ivory brought traders to this ocean bordered area. As the shipping trade grew, Liberian ports also became involved in the slave trade. Tribes went inland and raided neighboring villages, stealing not only goods but also men, women and children.

In the early 1800s, when Britain outlawed slavery, nearly 2,000 freed British slaves were settled in Sierra Leone, a country that bordered Liberia. Meanwhile, abolitionists in America formed the American Colonization Society helping free blacks move back to Africa.

Just nine years after Britain freed its slaves, the group began sending Africans from America to Liberia and Sierra Leone. By selling annual and lifetime memberships to the ACS, they were able to finance their operations. Although many free blacks chose to stay in America, others were grateful to return to their nation of origin.

Slavery opponents spoke out against the idea, but abolitionists convinced the government to help their cause. By 1839, more than 3,000 former American slaves and descendants of slaves lived in Liberia and a republic was formed with a constitution based on that of the United States.

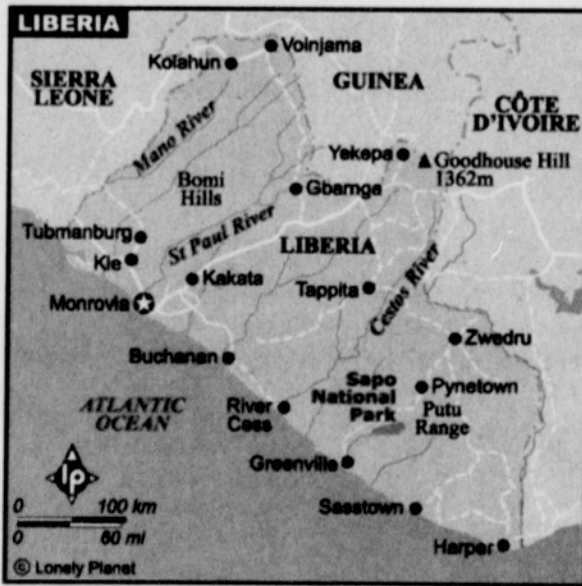
The transition from America to Africa was not without challenges. British and American government officials negotiated with tribal chiefs in the area to expand the territory and to allow white settlers in both Liberia and Sierra Leone. As rich white landowners came to the area, those who returned to Africa began to see history repeating itself. Whites built huge plantations and lived in great wealth while blacks again worked the land. The only difference in Liberia was they were paid small stipends and told they were free. White power continued to rule the land.

Christianity also became a difficult issue. While many Africans rejected religion, whites built churches and sent missionaries throughout the land. As the country grew, Liberia's new residents become educated and gradually moved into better employment. Many of them accepted Christianity on the basis that their lives were improving.

Unfortunately, the new population brought resentment from true Liberian people who began feeling like the lower class. Rebellion often took place between Liberians and the Liberian-Americans.

In 1926, America's Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. set up a huge operation in Liberia. This opened up many opportunities for employment and advancement. But in 1929, the company was investigated by the American-led League of Nations regarding Liberian government-tolerated forced employment and the country's president Charles D.B. King was forced to resign. This led to improved wages and working conditions.

Today, after decades of turmoil Liberia finds itself war-ravaged and dependant on foreign aid for food. Former Liberian President Charles Taylor resigned last month and positive changes are expected. The Atlantic Ocean air from the west breathes new hope for those who have lived so long in terror and violence. Liberians and their new leaders feel their once rich fertile lands will again lead this to country peace and prosperity.



**REACH**  
 Racial & Ethnic Approaches to Community Health  
 A program of the African American Health Coalition, Inc.  
 Sponsored by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

**Wellness Within REACH: Mind, Body, and Soul Activity Calendar**

All classes are free of charge!

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<b>Matt Dishman</b> 77 NE Knott	Strength Training 8-9am and 2-3pm Brown	Stretching/Body Sculpting 7-8am Lois  Strength Training 9-11am Norris	Strength Training 8-9am and 2-3pm Brown	Stretching/Body Sculpting 7-8am Lois  Strength Training 9-11am Norris	Strength Training 8-9am and 2-3pm Brown	African Dance 10:00-11:00am Addo
<b>Salvation Army</b> 5325 N Williams	Salsa Beginning in September	Water Aerobics Contact AAHC 503-413-1850	Tai Chi 6:30 - 7:30pm Lyles	Water Aerobics Contact AAHC 503-413-1850		
<b>Wild Oats Market</b> 3535 NE 15th		Yoga 7:30-8:30pm O'Rourke	Yoga 7:30-8:30pm O'Rourke			Body Conditioning 9:30-10:30am Nickerson
<b>Peninsula Park</b> 700 N Portland		Walking Group 6:00-7:00pm Nickerson (meet inside Lloyd Center in front of Sears)	Walking Group 6:00-7:00 pm Nickerson (meet inside Lloyd Center in front of Sears)			Walking Group 12:30pm Nickerson
<b>Halbury Avenue Christian Church (Gym)</b> 126 NE Alberta	Aerobics 5:30-6:20pm and 6:30-7:30pm Nickerson		Aerobics 5:30-6:20pm and 6:30-7:30pm Nickerson		Aerobics 6:30-7:30pm Nickerson	
<b>Highland United Church of Christ</b> 4635 NE 9th Ave.	Aerobics 6:00-7:00am Pierce	Aerobics 6:00-7:00pm Keller	Aerobics 6:00-7:00am Pierce	Aerobics 6:00-7:00pm Keller	Aerobics 6:00-7:00am Pierce	
<b>Whitaker Track</b> 42nd & Killingsworth		Wt. Management/Conditioning 9:00-10:00am Hasan	Wt. Management/Conditioning II 6:00-7:00am Hasan	Wt. Management/Conditioning 9:00-10:00am Hasan		

\*\*Must be 21 or older to participate. Please check with AAHC before showing up to the first class 503-413-1850. Please receive approval from your doctor before beginning exercise class.

**AAHC African American Health Coalition, Inc.**  
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 E-mail: kdempsey@aahc-portland.org • Web: www.aahc-portland.org

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