

Millions More Movement Takes Place This Saturday

Goal to fight poverty and injustice

The organizers of The Million Man March will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the historic event with The Millions More Movement, scheduled for Saturday at the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

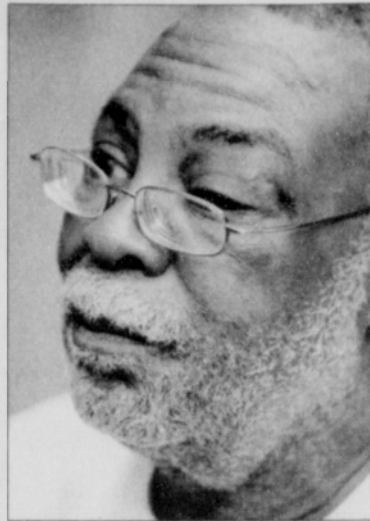
The Millions More Movement will focus on mobilizing men, women and youth into an effective national movement with the goal of transforming American society and eliminating poverty and injustice. The march will focus on empowering poor people to help themselves, beginning with the knowledge that in numbers comes strength and a common purpose to effect change.

The gathering takes place on the 10th anniversary of the Million Man March, which peacefully mobilized two million black men in order to help them be better fathers, hus-

bands and sons. Those orchestrating the event include Minister Louis Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam, Dr. Dorothy Height and the National Council of Negro Women, Bruce Gordon and the NAACP, Mark Morial and the National Urban League, Russell Simmons and the Hip-Hop Summit Action Network, Dr. Charles Steele and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Reverend Jesse Jackson and the National Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, the Reverend Al Sharpton and the National Action Network and Congressman Mel Watt and the Congressional Black Caucus, among a multitude of celebrity leaders. The National Director of the Millions More Movement is Washington, D.C. pastor the Reverend Willie Wilson.

New Orleans Beating Victim Baffled

Doesn't know why officers attacked



Robert Davis

(AP) - A retired elementary teacher who was repeatedly punched in the head by police in an incident caught on videotape said Monday he was not drunk, put up no resistance and was baffled by what happened.

Robert Davis said he had returned to New Orleans to check on property his family owns in the storm-ravaged city, and was out looking to buy cigarettes when he was beaten and arrested Saturday night in the French Quarter.

Police have alleged that the 64-year-old Davis was publicly intoxicated, a charge he strongly denied as he stood on the street corner where the incident played

tion was begun in the case. Davis is black; the three city police officers seen on the tape are white.

But Davis, his attorney and police spokesman Marlon Defillo all said they do not believe race was an issue.

"He does not see it as a racial thing," said Davis' lawyer, Joseph Bruno.

The APTN tape shows an officer hitting Davis at least four times in the head outside a bar. Davis twisted and flailed as he was dragged to the ground by several officers. Davis' lawyer said his client did not resist.

"I don't think that when a person is getting beat up there's a whole lot of thought. It's survival. You don't have a whole lot of time to think when you're being pummeled," Bruno said.

Davis was kned and pushed to the sidewalk with blood streaming down his arm and into the gutter.

The officers accused of striking Davis were identified as Schilling and Evangelist.

During the arrest, another officer, identified as Smith, ordered APTN producer Rich Matthews and a cameraman to stop recording. When Matthews held up his credentials, the officer grabbed the producer, leaned him backward over a car, jabbed him in the stomach and unleashed a profanity-laced tirade.

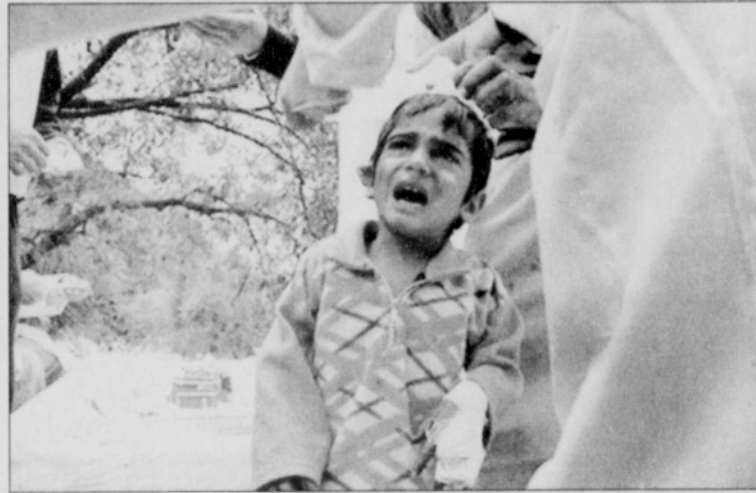
Police said Davis was booked on public intoxication, resisting arrest, battery on a police officer and public intimidation.

The head of the New Orleans police union said the officers told him they had acted appropriately.

"They feel they were justified in their actions and they were using the amount of force necessary to overcome the situation," Lt. David Benelli told WDSU in New Orleans.

Disease Warning in Quake Zone

Measles, cholera could spread easily



An earthquake victim cries as he receives medical treatment near Uri, India. (AP photo)

(AP) - Measles and waterborne diseases such as cholera and diarrhea could spread quickly among victims of south Asia's devastating earthquake, the United Nations warned Tuesday.

Heavy rain and hail forced the cancellation of some relief flights to earthquake-stricken regions and survivors scuffled over the badly needed food - the first large-scale aid to make it overland to the devastated city of Muzaffarabad, Pakistan. The official death toll in Paki-

stan remained at around 20,000 people, but a senior army official close to the rescue operations said government officials were estimating that between 35,000 and 40,000 died.

The Saturday quake damaged sanitation systems in the region,

destroyed hospitals and left many victims with no access to clean drinking water, making them more vulnerable to disease.

"Measles could potentially become a serious problem," said Fadela Chaib, spokeswoman for the World Health Organization. "We fear that if people huddle closely together in temporary shelters and crowded conditions more measles cases could occur."

Measles - deadly for children - are already endemic in the region and only 60 percent of the children are protected. At least 90 percent coverage is needed to prevent an epidemic, WHO said. The agency will soon start gathering essential vaccines for a mass immunization program.

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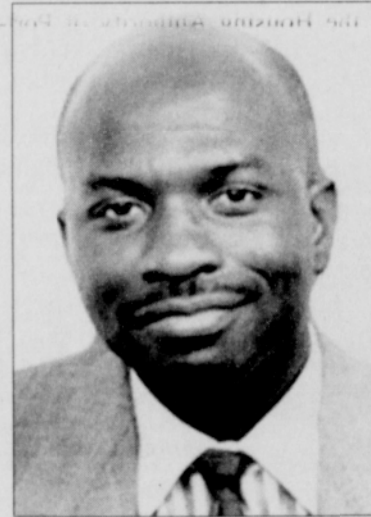
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Bush Commentator Probe Wanted

Audit finds covert propaganda



Armstrong Williams

(AP) - Democratic senators on Thursday pressed for a criminal fraud investigation of the Bush administration's hiring of African American commentator Armstrong Williams to promote its agenda.

Congressional auditors concluded last week that the Education Department engaged in illegal "covert propaganda" by hiring Williams to endorse the No Child Left Behind Act without requiring him to disclose he was paid.

That review by the Government Accountability Office did not come

with any penalty.

In a letter to Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, Sens. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., said questions of fraud remain for the department and for Williams.

The department paid Williams, a commentator with newspaper, television and radio audiences, to produce ads promoting Bush's law. Work orders show he also was to provide media time to department officials and persuade other blacks in the media to discuss the law.

Yet the department provided the GAO with almost no evidence of the work that Williams cited in his monthly reports. In their own search, GAO auditors either could not find the work Williams listed or could not connect the work they found to his contract.

"Taking taxpayer dollars for work you didn't do is fraud - period," Lautenberg said. "Americans are already upset that Bush administration paid off a columnist to write glowing reviews of the president's education agenda. The notion that he may not have even done the work is even worse."

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Unemployment Rate for Blacks Doubles Average

The African American unemployment rate in September was nearly double the national average, according to a report released last week by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The jobless rate for blacks last month was 9.2 percent, compared to the national average of 5.1 percent.

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi said the numbers indicate that President Bush and the Republican Congress are out of touch with the plight of hard-working families and back up September's Census report, which showed the nation's poverty rate rising for the fourth year in a row.

"We cannot continue to stay the course on such irresponsible economic policies that fail to invest in job training, education, and innovation, which would grow the economy," Pelosi said.

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