



Blacks Steady In Support No Wavering For Obama, Polls Say

By JERRY P. SMITH
Special to the Chronicle

CHARLOTTE, N.C.— Abdul Malik seems the prototype of a disenchanted Barack Obama voter.

Mr. Malik, 48, lost his job as a grading and landscape worker a year and a half ago, another victim of the housing bust.

Since then, he has been searching for something, anything, to help make ends meet.

Yet, Mr. Malik, who is Black, says he has every intention of again voting for President Obama next year.

So does Bobby Hart, 46, a former construction worker here. And Dorothy Artis of Greensboro, N.C., who is looking for a job to help support her grandchildren while her daughter is deployed in Kuwait.

And Larry Bennett, who worked for 27 years at Cooper Industries before he lost his job when his division moved out of state.

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Henry W. Owens

Retired Executive Is Dead Henry W. Owens Held Positions With AT&T

By JAMES E. MARSH
Special to the Chronicle

Henry W. Owens, a retired senior executive who worked during his career for Western Electric, AT&T and Lucent Technologies, died on Tuesday.

He was 80 years-old. Mr. Owens, who retired after a 38-year career in the telecommunications industry, began his career with Western Electric, and then worked for AT&T when the corporation operated under

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"We've demonstrated what collective action can achieve in the 21st Century," President Barack Obama said as he spoke at the White House on Thursday about the death of Col Moammar Gadhafi, the Libyan dictator.

Against Terrorists and Despots

Obama Building Strong Record Of National Security Successes

By CALVIN S. SCRIBNER
Special to the Chronicle

WASHINGTON— A single moment that may have defined President Barack Obama as a surprisingly tough commander in chief came in Dec. 2009, when he accepted the Nobel Peace Prize while leading two wars.

"I face the world as it is and cannot stand idle in the face of threats to the American people," he told the Nobel Committee in Oslo. "For make no mistake: Evil

New Health Center Set To Open Fall '12 Campus Might Become Model For the Nation

By JOHN W. SIMMS
Special to the Chronicle

Two county commissioners and the mayor participated in groundbreaking ceremonies for a new northeast Oklahoma City health center.

Oklahoma County Commissioners Willa Johnson (Dem., District I) and Ray Vaughn (Rep., District III), and Mayor Mick Cornett were joined by other community leaders for the Tuesday ceremonies.

The Northeast Health & Wellness Campus is a project of the Oklahoma County Department of Health, and will be located on NE 63rd Street between Martin Luther King Avenue and Interstate 35.

The 54-acre wellness campus will include clinical services provided by the University of Oklahoma Medical Center, and will use a concept that merges primary care with public health and education programs.

In addition, the Oklahoma City Police Athletic League will offer after-school programs for children, and the Areawide Aging

does exist in the world. A non-violent movement could not have halted Hitler's armies. Negotiations cannot convince al-Qaeda's leaders to lay down their arms."

In the 11 months before the speech and the 22 months since, a president heralded as a liberal and hailed as a pacifist has built his national security record by taking out terrorists, stepping up drone attacks, sending 30,000 troops into Afghanistan and clearing the air for a North Atlantic Treaty Organization war against

Libya that led to Moammar Gadhafi's death Thursday.

As he heads toward a difficult reelection race, polls show voters believe President Obama is handling the title "commander in chief" better than other aspects of his job—the economy, for instance.

Belittled during the 2008 campaign by Hillary Rodham Clinton as ill-equipped to handle 3 a.m. phone calls at the White

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Health and wellness programs will be central to the offerings of a new center to be built in northeast Oklahoma City.

Agency will provide health and longevity activities for the elderly.

A community kitchen will be available for cooking and nutrition classes at the new center.

Community gardens will be designed to educate children and adults about the value of fresh, local produce and good nutrition.

Moreover, health department officials said, walking trails around the perimeter of the campus along the Deep Fork River will, eventually, link with Oklahoma City's master trails network.

Youth sports fields are also planned, department officials noted.

Initial construction of the wellness center is expected to be completed in the fall of next year.

"The project represents far more than a new building that will deliver public health services," a statement said. "It marks a major, innovative shift in approach to

improving community health."

"The campus will offer a central location for activities aimed at reducing chronic disease," Commissioner Johnson (who is serving as chairman of the Oklahoma County Commission) said.

"The center will do this by focusing on programs that encourage all of us to become leaner, more active, nutritionally aware and health conscious," she emphasized.

"The campus has the potential to become a national model for community health improvement," Gary Cox, director of the health department, commented.

"This will be a center where residents will find services that address their current health needs," he continued, "as well as education and activities that can help prevent chronic diseases that plague our community."

Baker Is To Stand Trial For Shooting

Accused of Shooting Off-Duty Sheriff's Officer at Cattlemen's

Another Suspect Says He Saw Gun Aimed at Victim

By CHRISTOPHER V. PORTER
Chronicle Staff

A judge ordered to stand trial a man accused of shooting an off-duty sheriff's officer outside a famed Oklahoma City restaurant.

Christopher Travis Baker, 28, is charged with shooting with intent to kill and robbery with a firearm.

The incident occurred at Cattleman's Steakhouse.

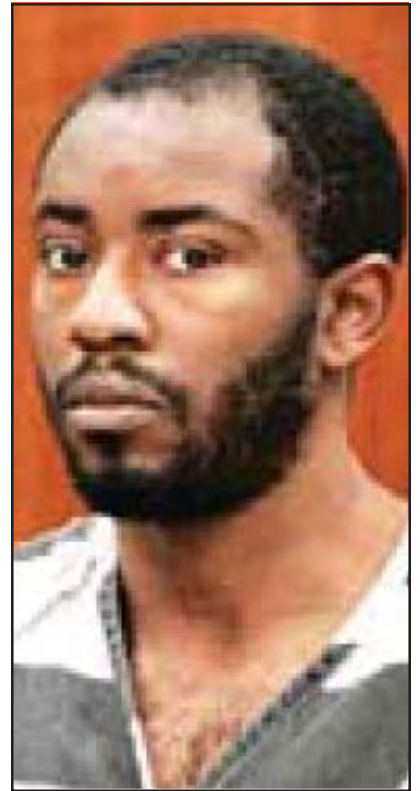
A second defendant, Keonta Stephan Terrell Prince, 18, testified during Mr. Baker's preliminary hearing that Mr. Baker shot Maj. John Waldenville, an off-duty security guard at the popular restaurant, as he left to make a bank deposit just after midnight on May 21.

Maj. Waldenville is with the Oklahoma County Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Prince, a former Cattlemen's dishwasher, who testified as part of an agreement with prosecutors, said he and Mr. Baker intended to rob the off-duty sheriff's officer, and that Mr. Baker surprised the deputy before the lawman could draw his gun.

Mr. Prince said Mr. Baker pulled a gun out of his coat and pointed it at Maj. Waldenville before firing.

"When I saw him pull it out and put it to his head, I took off running," Mr. Prince testified in the courtroom of Oklahoma County Special Judge D. Fred Doak.



Christopher T. Baker

Prosecutors said a third defendant, Diante Windham, 17, was booked into Oklahoma County Jail last week in connection with the shooting after Mr. Prince told officers that Mr. Windham, a Cattlemen's employee, tipped him off as Maj. Waldenville exited the restaurant.

A defendant in a separate case, Joshua Rinken, was scheduled to testify that in jail he overheard Mr. Baker brag about shooting a deputy.

He did not take the stand before Judge Doak decided he had sufficient evidence to order Mr. Baker to trial.

Mr. Rinken is accused of beating and partially paralyzing Officer Chad Peery of the Oklahoma City Police Department at a bar.

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Luper, Perry Honored Equal Opportunity Day Observed by League

By W. ORLANDO PIERCE
Special to the Chronicle

A renowned civil rights leader and the publisher of *The Black Chronicle* will be honored today at the annual Equal Opportunity Day Awards Luncheon of the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City.

The luncheon will begin today at 11:30 a.m. at the Waterford Marriott Hotel, 6300 Waterford Blvd.

Clara Shepard Luper, who died earlier this year and was known as the mother of the Oklahoma Civil Rights Movement, will be one of those honored.

Russell M. Perry, president of Perry Publishing & Broadcasting, is the other.

Mrs. Luper led the sit-in demonstrations that led to the desegregation of restaurants and other establishments in Oklahoma.

The famed rights leader, a retired history teacher, was inducted into the Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Afro-American Halls



Clara S. Luper

Russell M. Perry

of Fame.

Mr. Perry launched *The Black Chronicle* in 1979, and has led a company that now owns 16 AM and FM radio stations that broadcast in Oklahoma, Georgia and South Carolina.

He served as secretary of commerce in the administration of Gov. Frank Keating.

Mr. Perry has been inducted into the Oklahoma Press Association, the Oklahoma Broadcasters and the Oklahoma Afro-American Halls of Fame.

