

***NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE
1999 ANNUAL CONFERENCE***

“AGENDA 2000”

**HOUSTON, TX
AUGUST 8-11, 1999**

PRESS CLIPS



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Broadcast Schedule

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE CONFERENCE 08/03 To 08/16

1) Good Morning America ABC Network	8/6/99	7:00-8:00 AM
2) Lead Story BET Cable	8/8/99	10:30-11:00 AM
3) BET Tonight BET Cable	8/9/99	11:00-12:00 AM
4) BET Tonight BET Cable	8/10/99	11:00-12:00 AM
5) BET Tonight BET Cable	8/11/99	11:00-12:00 AM
6) The Late Late Show with Craig Kilborn CBS Network	8/10/99	12:35-1:35 AM
7) The World Today CNN Cable Network	8/8/99	10:00-10:30 PM
8) Early Edition CNN Cable Network	8/9/99	7:00-8:00 AM
9) CNN Morning News CNN Cable Network	8/9/99	10:00-11:30 AM
10) Inside Politics CNN Cable Network	8/9/99	5:00-6:00 PM
11) CSPAN-1 Daily Schedules CSPAN 1	8/10/99	12:00-6:00 PM
12) CSPAN-1 Daily Schedules CSPAN 1	8/10/99	6:00-12:00 AM
13) CSPAN-1 Daily Schedules CSPAN 1	8/11/99	12:00-6:00 AM
14) CSPAN-2 Daily Schedules CSPAN 2	8/11/99	6:00-12:00 PM

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NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE CONFERENCE

Continued....

47)	Noon News WBAP-AM (ABC) Freq 820 Dallas/Fort Worth	8/9/99	12:00-1:00 PM
48)	AM News WBAP-AM (ABC) Freq 820 Dallas/Fort Worth	8/11/99	5:00-6:00 AM
49)	Texas Daily at 10 Texas Cable News Network Dallas/Fort Wor	8/9/99	10:00-11:00 AM
50)	Texas Daily at 11 Texas Cable News Network Dallas/Fort Wor	8/9/99	11:00-12:00 PM
51)	Texas Daily at 2 Texas Cable News Network Dallas/Fort Wor	8/9/99	2:00-3:00 PM
52)	Texas Daily at 9 Texas Cable News Network Dallas/Fort Wor	8/10/99	9:00-10:00 AM
53)	Texas Daily at 10 Texas Cable News Network Dallas/Fort Wor	8/10/99	10:00-11:00 AM
54)	Texas Daily at 11 Texas Cable News Network Dallas/Fort Wor	8/10/99	11:00-12:00 PM
55)	Texas Daily at 2 Texas Cable News Network Dallas/Fort Wor	8/10/99	2:00-3:00 PM
56)	News 8 at 5:30 WFAA-TV (ABC) CH 8 Dallas/Fort Worth	8/8/99	5:30-6:00 PM
57)	News 8 Update WFAA-TV (ABC) CH 8 Dallas/Fort Worth	8/8/99	10:00-10:20 PM
58)	News Eight Daybreak WFAA-TV (ABC) CH 8 Dallas/Fort Worth	8/9/99	5:00-7:00 AM
59)	Local News Break WFAA-TV (ABC) CH 8 Dallas/Fort Worth	8/9/99	8:25-8:30 AM
60)	News Eight at Six WFAA-TV (ABC) CH 8 Dallas/Fort Worth	8/9/99	6:00-6:30 PM
61)	News Eight Daybreak WFAA-TV (ABC) CH 8 Dallas/Fort Worth	8/11/99	5:00-7:00 AM
62)	News Eight at Six WFAA-TV (ABC) CH 8 Dallas/Fort Worth	8/11/99	6:00-6:30 PM

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NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE CONFERENCE Continued....

79)	Spirit of Texas This Morning KHOU-TV (CBS) CH 11 Houston	8/11/99	5:00-8:00 AM
80)	11 News at Noon KHOU-TV (CBS) CH 11 Houston	8/11/99	12:00-12:30 PM
81)	Spirit of Texas This Morning KHOU-TV (CBS) CH 11 Houston	8/12/99	5:00-8:00 AM
82)	11 News Update KHOU-TV (CBS) CH 11 Houston	8/12/99	8:55-9:00 AM
83)	News 2 Houston at 5:00 KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/6/99	5:00-5:30 PM
84)	News 2 Houston Weekend KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/8/99	5:00-5:30 PM
85)	News 2 Houston Nightbeat KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/8/99	10:00-10:20 PM
86)	News 2 Houston First at Five KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/9/99	5:00-6:00 AM
87)	News 2 Houston Daybreak KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/9/99	6:00-7:00 AM
88)	News 2 Houston Update KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/9/99	7:25-7:30 AM
89)	News 2 Houston at Noon KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/9/99	12:00-12:30 PM
90)	Headline News Local Cut-ins KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/9/99	12:55-1:00 PM
91)	News 2 Houston at 4:00 KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/9/99	4:00-4:30 PM
92)	News 2 Houston at 5:00 KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/9/99	5:00-5:30 PM
93)	News 2 Houston 6:00 Difference KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/9/99	6:00-6:30 PM
94)	News 2 Houston Nightbeat KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/9/99	10:00-10:35 PM

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NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE CONFERENCE

Continued....

111) News 2 Houston Nightbeat KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/11/99	10:00-10:35 PM
112) News 2 Houston First at Five KPRC-TV (NBC) CH 2 Houston	8/12/99	5:00-6:00 AM
113) Fox News 12:30 KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/6/99	12:30-1:00 PM
114) Fox News at Nine KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/8/99	9:00-9:25 PM
115) Fox News 6:00 AM KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/9/99	6:00-7:00 AM
116) Fox News 7:00 AM KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/9/99	7:00-8:00 AM
117) Fox News at Nine KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/9/99	9:00-10:00 PM
118) Fox News 6:00 AM KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/10/99	6:00-7:00 AM
119) Fox News 7:00 AM KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/10/99	7:00-8:00 AM
120) Fox News 12:30 KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/10/99	12:30-1:00 PM
121) Fox News at Nine KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/10/99	9:00-10:00 PM
122) Fox News 6:00 AM KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/11/99	6:00-7:00 AM
123) Fox News 12:30 KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/11/99	12:30-1:00 PM
124) Fox News at Nine KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/11/99	9:00-10:00 PM
125) Fox News 6:00 AM KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/12/99	6:00-7:00 AM
126) Black Voice KRIV-TV (Fox) CH 26 Houston	8/15/99	8:00-8:30 AM

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143) Eyewitness News Update KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/9/99	7:25-7:30 AM
144) Eyewitness News Update KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/9/99	7:55-8:00 AM
145) Eyewitness News Update KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/9/99	8:25-8:30 AM
146) Eyewitness News at 11:30 AM KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/9/99	11:30-12:00 PM
147) Live At Five KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/9/99	5:00-5:30 PM
148) Eyewitness News KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/9/99	6:00-7:00 PM
149) Eyewitness News Tonight KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/9/99	10:00-10:35 PM
150) Eyewitness News at 5:30 AM KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/10/99	5:30-6:00 AM
151) Eyewitness News at 6:00 AM KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/10/99	6:00-7:00 AM
152) Eyewitness News Update KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/10/99	7:25-7:30 AM
153) Eyewitness News Update KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/10/99	7:55-8:00 AM
154) Eyewitness News Update KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/10/99	8:25-8:30 AM
155) Eyewitness News at 11:30 AM KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/10/99	11:30-12:00 PM
156) Eyewitness News KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/10/99	6:00-7:00 PM
157) Eyewitness News Tonight KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/10/99	10:00-10:35 PM
158) Eyewitness News at 5:30 AM KTRK-TV (ABC) CH 13 Houston	8/11/99	5:30-6:00 AM

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE CONFERENCE

Continued....

175) AM Drive News KTRH-AM (CBS) Freq 740 Houston	8/10/99	6:00-7:00 AM
176) AM Drive News KTRH-AM (CBS) Freq 740 Houston	8/10/99	7:00-8:00 AM
177) PM Drive News KTRH-AM (CBS) Freq 740 Houston	8/10/99	4:00-5:00 PM
178) AM Drive News KTRH-AM (CBS) Freq 740 Houston	8/11/99	6:00-7:00 AM
179) AM Drive News KTRH-AM (CBS) Freq 740 Houston	8/11/99	7:00-8:00 AM
180) AM Drive News KUHF-FM (NPR) Freq 88.7 Houston	8/6/99	5:30-7:35 AM
181) PM Drive News KUHF-FM (NPR) Freq 88.7 Houston	8/6/99	3:55-5:35 PM
182) AM Drive News KUHF-FM (NPR) Freq 88.7 Houston	8/9/99	5:30-7:35 AM
183) PM Drive News KUHF-FM (NPR) Freq 88.7 Houston	8/9/99	3:55-5:35 PM
184) AM Drive News KUHF-FM (NPR) Freq 88.7 Houston	8/10/99	5:30-7:35 AM
185) PM Drive News KUHF-FM (NPR) Freq 88.7 Houston	8/10/99	3:55-5:35 PM
186) AM Drive News KUHF-FM (NPR) Freq 88.7 Houston	8/11/99	5:30-7:35 AM
187) PM Drive News KUHF-FM (NPR) Freq 88.7 Houston	8/11/99	3:55-5:35 PM
188) First In The Morning News KIRO-TV (CBS) CH 7 Seattle/Tacoma	8/9/99	5:00-7:00 AM
189) Channel 3 Morning News WKYC-TV (NBC) CH 3 Cleveland	8/13/99	6:00-7:00 AM
190) Bay 9 News Bay News 9 (IND) CH 9 Tampa/St. Pete.	8/9/99	6:00-8:30 AM

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE CONFERENCE Continued....

207) FOX 13 News AM KSTU-TV (Fox) CH 13 Salt Lake City	8/9/99	5:25-8:00 AM
208) Eyewitness News KENS-TV (CBS) CH 5 San Antonio	8/8/99	10:00-10:35 PM
209) Sunrise San Antonio KENS-TV (CBS) CH 5 San Antonio	8/9/99	5:00-8:00 AM
210) Eyewitness News KENS-TV (CBS) CH 5 San Antonio	8/9/99	12:00-12:30 PM
211) Eyewitness News KENS-TV (CBS) CH 5 San Antonio	8/9/99	5:00-5:30 PM
212) Sunrise San Antonio KENS-TV (CBS) CH 5 San Antonio	8/10/99	5:00-8:00 AM
213) WAVY News 10 Today WAVY-TV (NBC) CH 10 Norfolk/Portsmouth	8/9/99	5:00-7:00 AM
214) 13 News At 5:00 WVEC-TV (ABC) CH 13 Norfolk/Portsmouth	8/11/99	5:00-5:30 PM
215) 13 News Midday WVEC-TV (ABC) CH 13 Norfolk/Portsmouth	8/12/99	12:00-12:30 PM
216) News 4 Tonight WIVB-TV (CBS) CH 4 Buffalo	8/10/99	11:00-11:35 PM
217) The Early Edition of Eyewitness News WWL-TV (CBS) CH 4 New Orleans	8/9/99	5:00-6:00 AM
218) The Early Edition of Eyewitness News WWL-TV (CBS) CH 4 New Orleans	8/10/99	5:00-6:00 AM
219) Action News 5 WMC-TV (NBC) CH 5 Memphis	8/9/99	6:30-7:00 AM
220) Action News 5 WMC-TV (NBC) CH 5 Memphis	8/10/99	5:00-6:00 AM
221) NewsChannel 4 KFOR-TV (NBC) CH 4 Oklahoma City	8/12/99	6:30-7:00 PM
222) NewsChannel 12 Sunrise WXII-TV (NBC) CH 12 Greensboro/Winston-S	8/9/99	5:30-7:00 AM

STATION BROADCASTS OF RMT

Tuesday, August 3, 1999



Station	Market & market rank	Usage	AQH*	Impressions
WLIB-AM	New York (1)	1	18,363	18,363
WVON-AM	Chicago (3)	1	9,500	9,500
WUSL-FM	Philadelphia (5)	1	52,597	52,597
WTOP-AM/FM	Washington (9)	2	20,000	40,000
WHUR-FM	Washington (9)	2	35,750	71,500
KPRC-AM	Houston (10)	4	18,400	73,600
KDKO-AM	Denver (23)	1	4,413	4,413
WCIN-AM	Cincinnati (26)	1	3,091	3,091
WSTA-AM	St. Thomas U.S.V.I.	1	14,000	14,000

Totals:	Stations: 8	Broadcasts: 13	Impressions:	274,464
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National Urban League

Radio Media Tour

with

Hugh B. Price

President, National Urban League

Tuesday, August 3, 1999

* AQH = The average number of listeners per quarter hour.

STATION INTERVIEWS OF AFFILIATE CEOs -- Monday, August 9



Station	Market & market rank	Usage	AQH*	Impressions
Theresa Sanders WLIB-AM	New York (1)	1	18,363	18,363
Maudeen Cooper) WMMJ-FM	Washington (9)	1	29,939	29,939
Totals:	Stations: 2	Broadcasts: 2	Impressions:	48,302

**Usage Report for National Urban League
Affiliate President Interviews**

for

August 9 & 10, 1999

from the National Conference in Houston, TX

* AQH = The average number of listeners per quarter hour.

Saturday, Aug. 7, 1999

URBAN LEAGUE

Gathering here a chance for building bridges

No celebrity spokesperson hogging the limelight. No soap opera of controversy and confusion. No loud rhetoric or other manifestation of ideological extremes competing for the glare of media lights.

The National Urban League just keeps plugging productively away — from the grass roots to the cutting edge of technology to the corporate boardrooms of America — in its efforts to ensure social and economic equality in the black community.

And when 10,000 or so delegates gather in Houston over the next few days for the group's Agenda 2000: Equality and Power for the New Millennium conference, the tens of millions of dollars they will be pumping into the local economy will be making another quiet but powerful statement about the economic potential that is represented in the league's broad constituency.

Urban League President Hugh B. Price talks about the group's "solid, unexotic work, day in and day out," and his keynote address, entitled "Destination: The American Dream," will no doubt delineate the Urban League's business-like and business-oriented approach. A partnership with Houston's Shell Oil Co. and other

corporate sponsors in putting on the conference here underscores that hallmark.

The many programs and sessions during the conference on such topics as affirmative action and expanding home ownership and academic achievement will give us all cause for reflection on what roles we can play in ensuring an inclusive society.

Price and local Urban League head Sylvia K. Brooks talked this week about why Houston was chosen as the sight for the event and prominent among the reasons was our city's well-publicized commitment to finding ways to build bridges and work together across ethnic lines.

"The Urban League has been in the business of building bridges since day one," says Price. Houstonians, particularly in recent years, have recognized the wisdom in such a strategy, and while we're very far from problem-free, we have demonstrated an open-mindedness and willingness to deal with delicate issues that has great merit.

The Urban League conference, through Aug. 11, should be a welcomed opportunity to focus further on the critical issues that both divide and unite us.

"We'll rate how committed they are," said Price of the candidates. "Instead of the stars they use for movies, we'll use our equal opportunity logo to rate the candidates.

"If they're really serious and actually endorse our plan or come up with a better idea, they'll get five equality signs. If they mention our 'commandments' on the campaign trail, perhaps they'll earn a two.

"But if they're silent or shuckin' or jivin', they get a big zero, with no equality sign inside it."

While the more than 5,000 people expected to attend the four-day conference will be offered a job fair featuring more than 120 top corporations, an art exhibit and workshops on a variety of social topics, politics is high on the agenda.

Martin Luther King III, the son of the late civil rights leader who now serves as president of the Southern Leadership Conference, was on hand Sunday for Price's keynote address. So was Kweisi Mfume, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the nation's oldest and largest civil rights group.

Mfume is scheduled to join the Rev. Jesse Jackson, president of the Rainbow-PUSH Coalition, in a session this afternoon on political power in the next millennium. Vice President Al Gore, the front-running candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, today is scheduled to deliver a luncheon speech.

Bill Bradley, the former U.S. senator from New Jersey, who also is vying for the Democratic nod and has made closing the racial divide a campaign mantra, is scheduled to address the conference Wednesday afternoon.

"We must register and vote in the year 2000 election as though our future depends on it," Price told his cheering audience. "Make no mistake, it does."

Houston was deliberately selected as the 1999 conference site, Price said, because voters here bucked a national tide of anti-affirmative action sentiment. The city also has managed to maintain generally harmonious relations between its diverse groups.

"We're simpatico with what the Houston leadership is trying to do," Price said.

In the November 1997 election, a multiethnic coalition of African-American, Anglo and Latino voters joined forces with downtown business interests to reject a petition-driven initiative that would have ended the city's affirmative action contracting programs. Voters also elected the city's first black mayor.

"Houston is the ideal site for the last league conference of the 20th century. For starters, Houston is Mayor Lee Brown's town," Price said.

Bush downplays conservative side of message

JULIE MASON, Houston Chronicle Political Writer

08/09/1999

Houston Chronicle

3 STAR

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(Copyright 1999)

Gov. George W. Bush touted the compassion but not the conservatism Sunday in a brief address to the **National Urban League**'s 89th annual meeting.

Bush, who is campaigning for the 2000 Republican presidential nomination on a theme of "compassionate conservatism," told the predominantly African-American crowd of about 2,000 that the organization's emphasis on children reflects his own agenda.

While omitting any of the references to conservatism that usually pepper his speeches, Bush shared his proposals for bolstering the efforts of faith-based organizations with new government assistance.

"The lessons of the last 30 years is that we've learned government can hand out money, but what it cannot do is put hope in our hearts or a sense of purpose in our lives," Bush said.

Bush's appearance at the conference comes on the heels of criticism from some quarters regarding his decisions on whether to attend similar events across the country. While his campaign cited scheduling conflicts and the high volume of speaking invitations he receives, Bush nevertheless has been criticized in recent months for rejecting overtures from at least four other minority conventions.

But a spotty record on conference attendance was perhaps among the least of Bush's problems among the Urban League attendees in the George R. Brown Convention Center.

Even as he praised the purpose and agenda of the venerable civil rights organization, Bush was being assailed for his stance on hate-crimes legislation by two of the state's leading black lawmakers.

U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, D-Houston, issued a statement before Bush's speech that said, "There is a big difference between talking about compassion and acting with compassion. We as a nation cannot afford leaders who remain silent as victims are killed or injured solely because of their differences." Jackson Lee later sat a few seats from Bush on the convention dais.

To his second standing ovation from delegates that fell far short of unanimous, Bush said: "I'm not sure what the future is going to hold, but hopefully I will be meeting with you in the future."

Photo: Gov. George W. Bush joins Hugh B. Price, right, president of the **National Urban League**, at the podium at the George R. Brown Convention Center for Sunday's opening of the civil rights organization's annual conference. Over 5,000 people are expected at the four-day convention (color)

USA TODAY · MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 1999 · 3A

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OPPORTUNITY COMMANDMENTS: The National Urban League opened its 89th annual conference in Houston. The four-day event kicked off with speeches from league President Hugh Price and Texas Gov. George W. Bush. Among highlights were the announcement of the league's Ten Opportunity Commandments. Stressing education, the list includes the offer of quality preschool education to every child whose parents can't afford it, expanded after-school and summer school programs, and guaranteed universal access to higher education. But the list also includes issues such as affordable health care for all and economic policies that promote higher incomes, jobs and economic growth in urban and rural communities. 9595

Vice President Al Gore will speak to the Urban League on Monday, followed on Tuesday by former U.S. Senator from New Jersey Bill Bradley. Both are seeking the Democratic presidential nomination.

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The governor also touted Texas' success at improving public education, noting that student test scores in the state's public schools have risen across the board, "especially African American and Hispanic students."

Three years ago, nearly 40,000 failed the third-grade reading test, Bush said. "Instead of getting extra help, we just shuffled them through," he said. " . . . So our state did something about it and ended social promotion."

Bush also lauded his abolition of social promotion of Texas students as a step toward ensuring that all students are able to "access the American dream."

"I've seen what works in this state. We've raised the bar of expectations," Bush said. "We've aligned authority and responsibility where it belongs, at the local level."

Distributed by The Associated Press (AP)

that government money should support groups with successful social-aid programs — such as faith-based organizations, churches, synagogues and charities.

“They've had success because they change lives by changing hearts, but they don't have the resources they need to continue waging the war,” he said.

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into the Houston economy, said Sylvia Brooks, president and CEO of the Houston Area *Urban League*.

"We know that people are going to come and discuss issues, but we know it really puts the spotlight on the community," Brooks said. "Many people will make money from the convention. We have tried to involve many of the people that we work with."

Houston-based Shell Oil Company is the major sponsor of the conference.

About 400 young people are expected to attend the conference, taking a behind-the-business tour, visiting NASA and participating in a community-service project.

The *Urban League* began its Student Achievement Campaign in Houston. It is designed to to work with school districts and parents to help students succeed in school.

About 20 fourth-graders from Franklin Elementary, who were on a field trip downtown, watched the press conference, cheering loudly and bringing this response from Brown: "Is this your first press conference?"

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Bush advocated continuing "the hard work of compassion," saying that government money should support groups with successful social-aid programs -- such as faith-based organizations, churches, synagogues and charities.

"They've had success because they change lives by changing hearts, but they don't have the resources they need to continue waging the war," he said.

The governor also touted Texas' success at improving public education, noting that student test scores in the state's public schools have risen across the board, "especially African American and Hispanic students."

Three years ago, nearly 40,000 failed the third-grade reading test, Bush said. "Instead of getting extra help, we just shuffled them through," he said. "... So our state did something about it and ended social promotion."

Bush also lauded his abolition of social promotion of Texas students as a step toward ensuring that all students are able to "access the American dream."

"I've seen what works in this state. We've raised the bar of expectations," Bush said. "We've aligned authority and responsibility where it belongs, at the local level."

COLOR PHOTO, Photo: Michael Stravato/AP; Texas Gov. George W. Bush and National Urban League President **Hugh Price** recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the group's Houston convention. Bush touts his record to Urban League

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NEWS

BUSH TELLS URBAN LEAGUE TEXAS IS MODEL FOR CHANGE

C. BRYSON HULL

08/09/1999

Buffalo News

CITY

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Gov. George W. Bush urged the **National Urban League** Conference Sunday to consider Texas a model for changes that can be made on a national level.

The Republican presidential front-runner touted Texas' success at improving public education, noting that student test scores in the state's public schools have risen across the board, "especially (for) African-American and Hispanic students."

And Bush told the 4,000 black community and business leaders and activists about the abolition of social promotion of Texas students as a step toward ensuring that all students are able to "access the American dream."

"I've seen what works in this state. We've raised the bar of expectations," Bush said. "We've aligned authority and responsibility where it belongs, at the local level."

Bush's appearance at the Urban League's annual convention is part of his drive to appeal to ethnic minority voters, who have historically supported Democratic candidates.

The appearance came two weeks after Bush's absence from the annual convention of the National Council of La Raza, a Hispanic advocacy group, drew sharp criticism from his opponents.

Last month, Bush turned down a chance to speak at a meeting of minority journalists in Seattle, though he was campaigning in that city at the time. He eventually made a brief appearance at that event.

The four-day Urban League conference is drawing top candidates from the 2000 presidential race. Bush was the first of several contestants slated to appear.

Vice President Gore, the front-runner for next year's Democratic nomination, is due to address the convention today. His closest Democratic rival, former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley, is to speak Tuesday afternoon.

Bush, advocating what he called "the hard work of compassion," told the group that government money should support groups with successful social-aid programs -- such as faith-based organizations, churches, synagogues and charities.

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GETTING ALONG / Houston's inclusiveness isworth the effort

Staff

The *National Urban League* 's president, Hugh Price, had some flattering and noteworthy things to say about our city last week in announcing that the group would hold its annual conference here Aug. 8-11.

Our city, because of its history of racial and ethnic inclusion, is the ideal place to host such a conference, said Price. "Houston is a window on the 21st century. It has a robust economy, and Houston is figuring out how to make inclusion work," he said. "There are many issues being played out in Houston and Texas."

The theme for the conference is "Agenda 2000: Equality and Power for the New Millennium."

Before the *Urban League* arrives, the *National* Council of La Raza, the nation's largest constituency-based Hispanic organization, will also hold its annual conference here July 24-28.

That conference, whose theme is "Launching a New Millennium," will focus on the critical role Hispanics will play in the nation's social, political and economic future - and the especially important role of Texas, home to the country's second-largest Hispanic population. Houston's general willingness to be inclusive and work for equality and justice is also playing a large role in bringing the NCLR back to this city.

What these and other signals are telling us is that people around the country are noticing a city that works hard to get along. At the opposite end of the spectrum have been places where boycotts and meeting cancellations have followed divisive and often discriminatory political squabbles, so Houstonians have much to be proud of.

Mostly we should be proud that we have leadership and citizenry that understand the need to get along, to be inclusive, to be fair and just and to reach reasonable compromise on some of the most sensitive issues of our times.

This is not a suggestion that we should rest on our laurels or fall under the impression that there are no problems to solve around here. But rather it's calling attention to the fact that we should do anything but let the progress and bridges built in this community fall by the wayside.

Gore, Bush to address National Urban League

By CHRIS FLETCHER

08/06/1999

Associated Press Newswires

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HOUSTON (AP) - It's a don't-miss date for the pacesetters in the 2000 presidential field. Democrat Al Gore, his rival former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley and Republican front-runner George W. Bush will take their turns at the podium during next week's **National Urban League** Conference in Houston.

The four-day conference, slated to open on Sunday, will discuss what direction race relations should take during the 21st century.

About 2,000 delegates have registered for the conference, but organizers say up to 12,000 people may participate in the issue forums, career fair, youth conference and benefit concert by the Temptations.

The Urban League is a New York-based nonprofit organization that seeks to help blacks achieve social and economic equality.

Several other guests from the worlds of politics, business, sports, law enforcement and academia are scheduled to attend, including the Rev. Jesse Jackson, the Rev. Al Sharpton, attorney Johnnie Cochran and Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig.

Session topics will include affirmative action, dispersion of political power, professional sports and police brutality.

National Urban League President Hugh B. Price said the conference's lineup reflects a transitional time in U.S. history.

"The year 2000 will be a fateful year for this country," he said "It is a year when we will begin defining as a society our agenda for the next century."

Houston, recently the site of a major Hispanic civil rights conference, was chosen for the Urban League meeting because of its history of inclusion, Price said.

Lee Brown, the city's first black mayor, cited voters' 1997 approval of race- and gender-based preferences in city contracting as a sign to the Urban League that Houston is progressive.

"I think in large part they're coming here because they respect what we're doing here in our city. That diversity is celebrated as a strength as opposed to being a problem," Brown said.

Shifting population trends put Urban League to test

LORI RODRIGUEZ

08/08/1999

Houston Chronicle

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(Copyright 1999)

When Hugh B. Price left a high-powered, executive post for the helm of the **National Urban League**, the venerable civil rights group was awash in debt and atrophy.

Five arduous years later, Price has built a \$1.6 million cash reserve, replaced 70 percent of the staff, configured a Fortune 500 board of directors, taken the league online, moved headquarters to Wall Street and reinvented its mission of social and economic empowerment.

"We've done a lot of work I liken to looking under the sink to make sure the plumbing is ready for the 21st century," Price says of the new discipline.

The league will need that rigor.

Today, as more than 4,000 delegates descend on Houston for the league's 89th annual meeting, its 115 affiliates are braced for a millennium of profound shifts in which Latinos will supplant blacks as the nation's largest minority, and the color of black and brown power almost certainly will be green.

"All organizations have had to go through a period of self-assessment," concedes Price, who will open the four-day conference with a keynote address this evening at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

"We've had to look at where our constituents find themselves at the end of the millennium and where the country finds itself.

"Change is affecting everybody."

Consider only the numbers. Long the dominant minority in the country, blacks still lag far behind their white counterparts, according to most key indicators. Black families earn 40 percent less than comparable white families and have 90 percent less wealth; less than half own their homes, compared with 70 percent of white families.

Blacks are half as likely to attend college as whites; black men are jailed at eight times the rate of white men; and the average black life span is six years shorter than the average white.

Black groups also faced and rallied against nationwide, Republican-driven efforts to roll back affirmative action, majority-minority political districts and other key gains of the civil rights era. In 1995, the league was the first major organization to pull its annual conference from California because of former GOP Gov. Pete Wilson's anti-affirmative action initiative.

In 1997, the Houston Area Urban League locally joined black voters who turned out en masse in the November election to beat back an attack on the city's affirmative action contracting program. Blacks also joined forces with enough white and Latino voters to make history by electing Houston's first black mayor, Lee Brown.

These latter events, say Price and Brown, who is serving as honorary conference chairman, played a major role in drawing the league to Houston this week.

"Right now, things are on a positive track," Bositis agrees. "But these black organizations still face long-term challenges.

"The two most fundamental are integrating with other groups like Latinos and Asians in a future environment where blacks no longer will be the largest minority, and staying relevant to a changing black population.

"There's been a significant generational change; the African-American population today is mainly young," Bositis says. "They think differently. They feel differently. In a way, the young black population is closer in attitudes to young, non-Hispanic whites than they are to old blacks."

For many blacks today, the civil rights battles of the 1950s and 1960s are ancient history. But for the league, as for the NAACP, their best and maybe only hope for long-term viability rests with their youth. Both groups have concertedly beefed up ranks with young recruits, and both have directed toward them enormous resources.

In March, two years ago, at Shell Oil Company's local learning center, the league joined the Congress of National Black Churches and more than 20 black fraternities, sororities and other professional groups to create the Campaign for African-American Achievement. The premise is simple: Convince black youngsters and their parents that achievement matters, achievement makes a difference and achievement can change the course of the next millennium.

Another signature, private-sector partnership with State Farm Insurance Co. spawned the Thurgood Marshall Achievers Society, which now has more than 5,500 young members and has become one of the black community's most prestigious honor societies.

"But the strategizing, coalition-building and follow-through that went on throughout the city during the affirmative action election was an example of what can be done when we work together.

"Our city tells a story of what can happen when this kind of mobilization is successful. This is a model on which we need to build," Brooks says.

Even with an essentially static population, blacks still hold considerable aces, chief among them political muscle. While Latinos are on the numeric ascent, in the November 1998 election, they comprised 5 percent of the national electorate; blacks were 10 percent.

While Latinos also are concentrated in the key electoral states of California, Texas, Florida, Illinois and New York, 75 percent of the population lives in California or Texas, diminishing the breadth of their impact. The black population, conversely, is spread across 22 states where they potentially can swing elections, Bositis says.

"Blacks still are largely Democratic, which makes them even a more important voter bloc," Bositis adds. "Democrats have to significantly rely on their support."

Republican Gov. George W. Bush, front-runner for the GOP presidential nomination, passed up invitations to address the National Council of La Raza conference here last month as well as the annual meets of the League of United Latin American Citizens and the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials.

But Bush this evening will personally welcome the mainly middle-class, league conferees to Texas before Price delivers his keynote.

From the Democratic side of 2000 presidential hopefuls, Vice President Al Gore is scheduled to address a Monday luncheon and former Sen. Bill Bradley is scheduled to participate in a Tuesday plenary session.

Both candidates have made race a central issue in their campaigns.

"In the 1998 election, African-Americans and Latinos played a major role in shifting the politics of this country back to the center," Price says.

"Democrats had to go home to African-Americans and Latinos after distancing themselves from our agenda in order to pick up strength in Congress. The success of George Bush and his brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, in moderating the GOP helped pull the Republicans back.

"We've got to continue to be very robust players in the consolidation of those politics," Price says.

The rally is part of the Achievement Matters Campaign that the Urban League started two years ago to increase community awareness, combat a peer culture that downplays achievement and encourage adults to emphasize youth achievement, Price said.

"It's pretty amazing to meet someone who is an astronaut," said Akintoye Omoyewi, 17, of San Antonio.

Dexter Stroman, 15, said it is important for adults to encourage young people to succeed because many teens scoff at scholastic achievement.

"People try to put you down, but you can't go by what they say," said Stroman, of Columbus, S.C.

Thadd Fifer, 16, of southeast Houston, said, "Anything is possible. (The rally) just gives me a lot of confidence in myself." He said he and his older brother are planning to expand their cookie business, which operates from their home.

Among the results: The outlawing of the use of race as a criterion for admission to law school at the University of Texas, and threats to do the same at the University of Michigan and the University of Georgia.

"I would say that the sentiment for using racial and ethnic preferences is rapidly diminishing," as is the legal authority for them, said Roger Clegg, general counsel at the Center for Equal Opportunity, a conservative nonprofit organization in Washington that has been fighting race-based affirmative action programs for many years.

There is evidence to suggest that the momentum is with the anti-affirmative action forces: They have a string of recent victories to point to: California Proposition 209 and Washington State Initiative 200, voter initiatives that outlawed the use of race as a consideration of any state-run program -- college admissions, state employment or government contracting.

"This is a fight that is being waged on many different fronts," Clegg said. "There are the courts, but there are also the political branches, the state legislatures, the regulatory agencies, and there is also the court of public opinion."

For Marc Morial, the fight is about fairness. Morial, the mayor of New Orleans, believes that the arguments against the programs are essentially the work of entrenched political and economic interests resisting change.

"Affirmative action has been an effort to level the economic playing field, and there are some forces that are more comfortable with the status quo and the past," Morial said. "They have tried to turn the debate into one about merit vs. preference, as opposed to one about equality. To me there is no merit in a system that rewards a small group of people all the contracts, and that's the way it has been for a long, long time."

Hugh Price, president of the National Urban League, doubts that the idea of offering more opportunities to minorities and women will fade.

"Affirmative action is a set of tools we use to make our society more inclusive," Price said. "I think the fundamental goal will not only be saved, it will thrive. I think the tools are evolving. What we are in the middle of now is a skirmish over what tools to use."

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Jackson urged Urban League members to focus their search for equality on money, not race, saying, ``We need to close the resources gap."

He said blacks are essentially ``independent Democrats" and that voters should not look to any of the candidates for deliverance from social ills.

``Every great thing that happened this century happened from us up, not from the White House down," Jackson said.

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[Return to Headlines](#)**Gore speaks out for stiffer hate-crime law: VP tells Urban League conference such offenses 'fundamentally different'.(NEWS)**

Bruce Tomaso

08/10/1999

The Dallas Morning News

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Vice President Al Gore told civil-rights leaders Monday that he strongly supports tougher penalties for hate crimes - something the Texas Legislature refused to enact earlier this year.

"It is different - and fundamentally different - if someone sets out to murder an individual simply because of the color of their skin," said Mr. Gore, who is seeking the Democratic presidential nomination.

"That kind of crime is aimed not only at the victim. It is designed to dehumanize and stigmatize an entire race of people, an entire group of people."

Mr. Gore addressed the annual conference of the **National Urban League**, which is meeting in Houston.

Gov. George W. Bush, who is seeking the Republican presidential nomination, spoke to the group Sunday. Former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley of New Jersey, Mr. Gore's rival for the Democratic nomination, will speak Tuesday.

Without mentioning Mr. Bush by name, Mr. Gore sought to stake out the political high ground on an issue of great popularity with his overwhelmingly black audience.

He urged "all political leaders in both parties to end their silence and support" a federal hate-crimes bill that passed the Senate unanimously but is stalled in the House.

And on the state level, he said, "we fall short of our mission" wherever such statutes are defeated.

In the Texas legislative session that ended this spring, Mr. Bush did not endorse a bill to stiffen penalties for crimes motivated by the victim's race, ethnicity, gender, religion or sexual orientation. The measure died in a Senate committee, where it was defeated by a Republican majority.

Some Republicans said Mr. Bush's presidential bid would have been harmed, especially in the primaries, had he come out in favor of extending new protections to gay victims of hate crimes.

A spokeswoman for Mr. Bush's presidential campaign, Mindy Tucker, said Monday that the governor didn't push for the bill because he thought it was unnecessary.

"What the governor has said is that all violent crimes are hate crimes that ought to be punished fully under the law," she said.

ore recalls dad's fight for civil rights

as intensely proud of my father's opposition to the poll tax in the 1940s and support for civil rights in the 1950s and the Voting Rights Act of 1965," Gore said, recalling battles fought by his father, former U.S. Rep. Al Gore Sr., who died in December.

t heinous crime wounded not only the Byrd family and the Jasper community, it wounded the American spirit."

"We've gotten to know him very well," Price said, noting that Gore has called him at home to solicit input. "There's just a very good working relationship."

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National
Gore slams GOP, Bush, tax cuts
The Associated Press

08/10/1999
The Grand Rapids Press
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(Copyright 1999)

HOUSTON -- Vice President Al Gore is not paying much public attention to Bill Bradley, his rival for the Democratic presidential nomination, but doesn't hold back when it comes to Republican foes.

Addressing the **National Urban League** on Monday, he blasted the GOP's \$792 billion GOP tax cut as "reckless and wrong."

"We do not need a Republican right-wing U-turn back to the deficits of the past," Gore said. "Just when we are able to lift our people up, the Republicans have proposed another trickle-down tragedy to drag us down."

Although Gore differs on many issues with Bradley, who was addressing the convention this afternoon, it was Texas Gov. George W. Bush who drew Gore's fire.

The vice president never named the Republican front-runner, who spoke to the Urban League Sunday, but Bush's record and agenda of "compassionate conservatism" were clearly under attack.

"If we are going to close the opportunity gap in this nation, we're going to need a lot more than crumbs of compassion," Gore said.

It was an obvious reference to Bush's "compassionate conservatism" agenda.

Gore painted a dim picture of Bush's Texas, citing high drop-out rates by black students, a tax system taxed against the working poor and the nation's second-highest percentage of uninsured children.

He also proposed a \$1 increase in the minimum wage and a continuation of affirmative action programs.

Caption: AP PHOTO Vice President Al Gore greets attendees at the 1999 **National Urban League** annual conference.

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another."

Gore painted a dim picture of Bush's Texas, citing high drop-out rates by black students, a tax system taxed against the working poor and the nation's second-highest percentage of uninsured children.

"Here in Texas, can we be satisfied when African-Americans can be twice as likely to drop out of school?" Gore said, referring to Bush's education policies.

Touting a "common American agenda," the vice president called for a census that corrects the omission of millions of blacks and Hispanics in 2000, urged passage of the Democratic-sponsored Patient's Bill of Rights and pushed for photo IDs for gun buyers.

He also proposed a \$1 increase in the minimum wage and a continuation of affirmative action programs.

Also speaking Monday was the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who appeared on a panel titled "Political Power of the New Millennium" along with Kweisi Mfume, president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Jackson urged Urban League members to focus their search for equality on money, not race.

"We need to close the resources gap," Jackson said.

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Comments and questions

Sports leaders call for more minorities in ownership, management
By CHRIS FLETCHER

08/10/1999
Associated Press Newswires

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HOUSTON (AP) - Minorities have made inroads into professional sports leadership, but must ascend to the highest levels for true change to occur, three sports industry leaders said today.

The panel, led by National League president Leonard Coleman, discussed professional sports as a pathway to power during the National Urban League 's annual conference in Houston.

Also speaking were Michael Huyghue, senior vice president for football operations with the Jacksonville Jaguars, and Carl Poston, a Houston-based sports agent who represents several star athletes.

"It's been 52 years since Jackie Robinson broke in (to baseball) in 1947, and we're on the edge of a new millennium," said Coleman, the highest ranking black official of a major professional league. "In baseball, have we made progress? The answer is yes. Have we made enough progress? The answer is an emphatic, 'No.' "

Noting that in the past decade, the number of front-office jobs in professional baseball held by minorities has risen from 2 percent to 21 percent, Coleman pointed out that only one black - Bob Watson of the New York Yankees - has held the position of general manager.

Huyghue noted the disparity of minority athletes to leaders in pro football, where there are no minority owners and only three black coaches even though 70 percent of the league's players are minorities.

"I am optimistic that in years to come, as I look around the NFL meeting rooms I sit in, I won't be the only dark face in the room," Huyghue said.

Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig was scheduled to speak but was unable to attend, citing scheduling conflicts, Urban League spokeswoman Leslie Dunbar said.

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unidentified gunman began spraying the lobby with bullets, then walked away after wounding five people.

"It's about time somebody stood up to the NRA," he said. "It's about time to stop playing politics with this issue."

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Bush clobbers Gore in national voter polls on a would-be general election match-up.

But Gore said he was pleased with this showing.

"I enjoy being an underdog," he said. "I am perfectly happy with where I am 15 months from the election."

Gore said that in his first race for public office, for a U.S. House seat from Tennessee in 1976, he was expected to finish "back in the pack" behind a leader of the state legislature. Gore, whose father was a U.S. senator from Tennessee, won the race.

Underdog status aside, Gore said "there is occasionally a gap" between how voters feel and how he is being portrayed by the national media: as a vexed and bumbling candidate.

"But I think that's fine," he remarked. "I have no complaints."

Gore dodged questions about whether he will try during the Clinton administration to outlaw "racial profiling," the police practice of identifying possible criminal suspects based solely on their race.

Gore has promised to end the policy if elected president. His Democratic opponent, Bill Bradley, has suggested that Gore should press Clinton to carry out the deed now.

"Well, you'll have to ask the president that," Gore said when asked about Bradley's statement. "The Justice Department has a number of options under review, and I could give you my position. I would make it the first civil-rights act of the 21st century."

But will Gore encourage Clinton to sign an executive order that puts a ban into place?

"You know, he (Clinton) has done more to advance the case of civil rights than any president since Lyndon Johnson," Gore responded. "I think that his record is one that withstands any scrutiny or attack. As for the state of his dialogue with the Justice Department, you'll just have to ask him."

Gore brushed aside the idea that any of his presidential campaign proposals are goals he could have accomplished as the vice president for almost eight years.

"I am very proud of what I was able to accomplish from within," he said, adding that the Clinton administration has brought about a cleaner environment, record-high job growth and the budget surplus.

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member panel has been trying for two years to determine what happened May 31, 1921, when white mobs torched Tulsa's black business district - and whether reparations should be made. The official death count of about three dozen has long been disputed. Above, commission members Bob Blackburn (l.), John Hope Franklin, and Don Ross (r.) listen to public testimony.

A Florida importer was found guilty of smuggling Philippine corals into the US, in what prosecutors called the first federal conviction for trafficking in internationally protected coral. Petros Levantis faced up to 15 years in prison and \$750,000 in fines - and his firm could be fined up to \$1.5 million after a jury in Tampa returned the verdict. (c) Copyright 1999. The Christian Science Publishing Society

PHOTO: STEPHEN HOLMAN/TULSA WORLD/AP

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compassion." and leaders who deliver "crumbs of compassion." The governor has summed up his ideology with the slogan "compassionate conservatism."

Mr. Bradley was more direct. He not only faulted the governor for his stance on the hate-crimes bill, but he also took a swipe at the White House record of Mr. Bush's father.

As a senator, he said, he proudly championed the causes of minorities, and often "stood up to the Reagan administration and the Bush administration when I thought they were wrong" on civil-rights issues.

Mr. Bradley, a Rhodes scholar and former professional basketball player, said race is the overriding issue confronting Americans, now and for the future. "Race is fundamental to who we've become as a country," he said.

In just over 10 years, he said, "less than 60 percent of the people who enter the workforce in America are going to be native-born white Americans." That means, he said, that the children of today's whites "will be dependent more and more on the talents of nonwhite Americans."

For this reason, all citizens have a stake in improving educational opportunities and social conditions in the nation's heavily minority inner cities, Mr. Bradley said.

To do otherwise, he warned, "is morally unacceptable and economically perilous."

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News

Race profiling curbs raise doubts in Houston police

08/11/1999

The Atlanta Constitution

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A new program aimed at ensuring Houston police officers don't engage in racial profiling will be unveiled today by Mayor Lee Brown and Police Chief C.O. Bradford.

The timing of the announcement --- which coincides with visits to a **National Urban League** conference by high-profile minority rights advocates Johnnie Cochran and the Rev. Al Sharpton --- has sparked claims by some officers that the program is just political lip-service to a "hot" issue.

Other officers said the plan is farsighted and will be copied in coming months by law enforcement agencies all over the country.

Racial profiling is the practice of putting people under criminal suspicion based on their race.

In a memo last week, Houston Police Department Capt. David Cutler outlined methods the department intends to use to eliminate racial profiling: "Self-initiated police contact database fact sheets" will be filled out by officers every time they perform a "self-initiated investigative contact/stop."

In other words, if officers, based on their own judgment, stop to talk to someone either because the person appears to have a problem or because the person appears to be a problem, they must fill out the form on a mobile computer. Information includes the date, time and location, the reason for the contact, the disposition of the contact, and the age, race and sex of the person contacted.

The reports will form a database from which reports will be generated for review by Bradford, police managers and the Internal Affairs Division, the memo states. That database will be used to identify officers who may be practicing racial profiling. The memo did not say what action would be taken toward officers suspected of profiling.

The Houston Chronicle quoted several patrol officers who it said read the memo and commented on it in return for anonymity:

"If I see a guy who maybe looks like he's lost, or someone who looks like he's lurking somewhere he shouldn't be, I might not stop and talk to him now, because most of those turn out to be nothing, and then I'm going to have to fill out this form for five or 10 minutes," one officer said.

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Greg Pierce

08/11/1999

The Washington Times

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GORE RAPS RIVAL

Without naming George W. Bush, his leading Republican rival for the White House in 2000, Vice President Al Gore took shots at the Texas governor Monday at the **National Urban League's** annual conference.

"If we are going to close the opportunity gap in this nation, we're going to need a lot more than crumbs of compassion," Mr. Gore said, referring to Mr. Bush's "compassionate conservatism."

Mr. Gore painted a dim picture of Mr. Bush's Texas, citing high dropout rates by black students, a tax system he said was biased against the working poor and the nation's second-highest percentage of uninsured children, the Associated Press reports.

CALIFORNIA 'IN PLAY'

California Gov. Gray Davis said Monday his fellow Democrats - most notably Vice President Al Gore - won't have an easy time winning the nation's most populous state in the 2000 presidential election.

"Make no mistake, California is in play," Mr. Davis said in an interview with Associated Press writer Ron Fournier between meetings at the National Governors' Association convention.

Republican strategists looking ahead to the general election believe the GOP presidential nominee could do grave damage to the Democratic candidate by making California and New York competitive. Democrats traditionally need to win those two states to claim the White House.

THE GOP'S NEW TOY

The Republican National Committee is bragging about its new mobile news unit, a digital satellite and production vehicle that will be used to broadcast live coverage of the Iowa straw poll over the Internet on Saturday.

"With this new unit, the Republican Party is going mobile to bring political images and information directly to the American people," RNC Chairman Jim Nicholson said in a statement Monday. "We will have the capability to broadcast live, multiple-camera programming over the Internet from any location in the country. It ensures that the RNC will continue to be at the technological forefront of electronic communication."

"This is yet another revolutionary step by our e.GOP project to harness web power," said RNC Co-Chairman Pat Harrison, who "christened" the e.GOP GOPTV unit. "Our ability to do live Webcasts will be a tremendous asset as we reach out to all Americans."

multiethnic, multiracial factory town: a town where the Little League was integrated before the schools were integrated," Bradley said.

"It was a town where as a Little League baseball player in regional playoffs, we stayed in third-rate motels because the African-Americans on our team couldn't stay in the first-rate hotels and the rest of us weren't going to leave our teammates."

As a young man, Bradley said, he asked his father, who worked his way up from a starting position at the small town bank to majority shareholder of the bank, of what he was most proud.

"He said the proudest moment was that, throughout the Great Depression, he never foreclosed on a single home," Bradley said.

"The other bit of wisdom he conveyed was that you could never tell by a person's skin color how they were going to repay their loans; that character was important and was found everywhere."

Saying that the future of white Americans is inextricably bound to the future of the nonwhite Americans who will constitute a majority of the work force in the new millennium, Bradley took another poke at President Clinton and Gore.

"Why have our leaders waited just until recently to even use the word 'poverty'?" Bradley said.

"This I know for sure: Timid leadership and the silence of good people have caused us to risk losing yet another generation, a generation that won't participate or benefit from the new economy that is emerging."

"It is morally unacceptable and economically perilous to continue this course."

Later, Bradley campaigned to about 125 Houston Democrats at a reception in the foyer of the Ensemble Theater near downtown.

He said he is seeking the Democratic nomination "in a little different way" by running a grass-roots operation and knocking on voters' doors in key primary states such as Iowa and New Hampshire.

"Sounds like a city council race in Houston, doesn't it?" he said.

In fact, Bradley was escorted to the event by Houston Councilman Carroll Robinson, one of the first elected officials in the country to endorse Bradley over Gore.

Answering the audience's questions about policy issues, Bradley said most of the federal budget surplus should be used to pay down the federal debt. That would have a bigger impact on the national economy than the tax cuts being favored by Republicans, he said. If tax cuts are offered at all, they should go first to the poorest taxpayers, he continued.

Bradley's campaign staff billed the meeting as a conversation with black preachers and minority leaders. But after the local Democratic Party invited any and all of its supporters, the meeting produced a mostly white audience. Several people said they came to check out Bradley and decide if they will vote for him or Gore in the March primary.

Bradley's remarks at the Urban League came a few hours after a gunman opened fire in the lobby of a suburban Los Angeles Jewish Community Center, wounding five people, including three young boys attending day camp. That prompted a repeat of his pledge to ban the sale of cheap guns known as "Saturday night specials" if elected president.

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News

SCHUMER EXPECTS GUN REGISTRY

DEBORAH ORIN Bureau Chief

08/11/1999

New York Post

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WASHINGTON - Sen. Chuck Schumer predicts that all handguns will be registered and licensed in five years, thanks to shocking violence like yesterday's Los Angeles Jewish-center shooting spree.

"I believe we will get there by the end of my first term," said Schumer (D-N.Y.), a gun-control leader in Congress whose term runs through 2004.

"We register cars and license people to drive them. My right to drive a car hasn't been hindered," Schumer told The Post.

He said that even without knowing details of the latest shooting horror - or how the attacker got his gun - it's clear there's a need for more gun control, "or we'll have incident after incident."

And that's why he predicts Congress will see the need for tougher restrictions, such as registration and licensing, although it is now resisting far more limited gun controls.

Despite the recent rash of shootings, gun-control advocates face a tough fight against the National Rifle Association and other supporters of Second Amendment rights.

GOP presidential hopeful Gary Bauer avoided a yes-or-no answer to a question about gun control when he appeared last night on Fox New Channel's "Hannity and Colmes."

"If this presidential campaign just gets down to a debate on another gun law, we'll miss the larger point," said Bauer - who says social problems are a bigger cause of violence than is easy access to guns.

GOP front-runner George W. Bush has also opposed gun control, saying the solution is to punish criminals who use guns.

Democratic presidential hopeful Bill Bradley has made a plan to license handgun owners and register guns a centerpiece of his campaign.

"It's time someone stood up to the NRA," Bradley told the **National Urban League** after the shooting.

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A
Conference focuses on sports, race /Urban League panel discusses the past, needs for the future
LORI RODRIGUEZ

08/11/1999
Houston Chronicle
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(Copyright 1999)

More than 52 years after baseball legend Jackie Robinson cracked the pro sports color barrier, minorities have barely penetrated the top ranks of the industry, National League president Leonard Coleman told African-Americans meeting in Houston on Tuesday.

"At the time, 2 percent of the jobs in the front office were held by African-Americans and other minorities. Today, that number is 21 percent. That's not insignificant progress," Coleman said on a panel at the **National Urban League** 's annual conference.

"Have we made enough progress? The answer is an emphatic 'no.' "

In the past decade, said Coleman, only Bob Watson, formerly with the Houston Astros and the New York Yankees, had managed to ascend to the highly visible, highly paid post of general manager. Seven other minorities have risen to the rank of assistant general manager.

"The old-boy network has outlived its usefulness but it's still entrenched," said Coleman, who also is an Urban League trustee.

Major League Baseball Commissioner Bud Selig also was scheduled to appear on the panel discussing sports as a pathway to power but abruptly canceled, citing scheduling conflicts. Coleman, however, said a recent meeting with Selig and other "disturbed" industry leaders had yielded some action.

"The commissioner has issued a letter to all clubs stating that no clubs may hire a general manager, an assistant general manager, a field manager, a head of player development or a head of scouting without first consulting with the commissioner," Coleman said before the panel at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

"Minority candidates must be considered. Can it be done? I would argue yes, obviously with the backing of the commissioner."

From the National Football League side of the panel, Michael Huyghue, a senior vice president for football operations with the Jacksonville Jaguars, said that while 70 percent of the players are African-Americans, none of the 31 team owners are and only two of the investors are.

"I find myself in National Football League meetings each year as the only African-American in those boardrooms, which is striking and unfortunate," Huyghue said. "We shouldn't be at a stage where someone 37 years old is the only voice of representation for African-Americans in the NFL."

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A

Jane Ely**Jackson says 'Bush' and so should Al Gore**

JANE ELY

08/11/1999

Houston Chronicle

3 STAR

Page 26

(Copyright 1999)

AS is the case with any convention of delegates with serious intent, there is a good deal of profundity being committed at the **National Urban League** convention in Houston this week.

As is the case with any great gathering of folk, there's also cause for good humor and a fair amount of conclusions to be drawn - about the spirit of the event, about those in attendance and about those speaking.

It is the speaker category that most attracts the attention of someone who often feels she's spent most of her adult life as an observer at conventions.

I cite, as an example, the time Vice President Al Gore arrived for his speech as a presidential candidate. He was late - even for a Democrat.

Scheduled to speak at 12:30 p.m., he began talking about 2:15. At least his speech wasn't as long as it was last week, when, in speaking to a Hispanic group, he threw in a lot of Spanish.

Without question, Gore drew his most spontaneous and appreciative receptions at the gatherings of the Urban League and the National Council of La Raza with a joke. Yes, the same joke. In the simplest of terms, the veep says three people arrive at the gates of heaven where they are met by St. Peter asking each what he or she did on Earth. (Yep, Gore makes sure the first is a woman, the second a man and the third, undefined as to gender.)

In short, the doctor gets in, as does the teacher. Under St. Peter's questioning, the third person, Gore notes, rather sheepishly confesses to running an HMO on Earth. St. Peter pauses, then magnanimously invites the third into heaven too, but, the saint cautions, "You can only stay three days."

Each time Gore has told that story in Houston lately, his crowds virtually have roared in laughter and comprehension. So, having shown the, ahem, good humor, I submit it is quite fair to conclude a great lot of folk are plenty worried about health care in this country. (You bet, I laughed. Both times.)

I, however, confess: I kind of moaned when I saw U.S. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee was to introduce the vice president to this week's crowd. Considering her very well-known penchant for talking - and talking and talking - my own congressional rep's role did not exactly thrill me.

Then, bless her, she proved the point I'm always trying to make about her: She is a terrific speaker

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Editorials**NO RETREAT / Need for affirmative action is academic, business reality**

08/11/1999

Houston Chronicle

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(Copyright 1999)

Affirmative action is not the front-burner issue in Texas that it was in 1997 when Houstonians defeated an anti-affirmative action ballot initiative. It is not the hot-button topic it was in 1996 when the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals banned race-based recruitment, admissions, scholarships and retention programs in Texas higher education.

But even if the furor over affirmative action has subsided, its necessity in corporate America has not, former Shell Oil CEO Phillip Carroll told an audience at the **National Urban League** meeting here on Monday. To be competitive at home and abroad, companies must develop work forces that are widely diverse and broadly skilled, Carroll said.

"The question is, what do you want to produce? If you want to compete, you need affirmative action," Carroll said, recognizing the current lack of an effective alternative.

The state of Michigan faces its own legal challenges to affirmative action in higher education, with potentially national consequences.

In addressing those issues, University of Michigan vice president and general counsel Marvin Krislov said race is but one criterion the school engages in selecting students. Other factors are family income, test scores, place of residence, grades, athletic and artistic ability. Far from harming the school, the resulting student diversity enriches the learning environment, Krislov pointed out.

Harvard law Professor Lani Guinier seized on the scarcity of education resources, arguing that higher education ought to be more widely available to all students and that preparation at the lower grades ought to be a national priority.

There is value in cultivating diversity in academia and business and in developing the talents and skills of all segments of society. To achieve that, affirmative action - for the time being - must continue to play a role in American life.

Now let's work out how such programs can function most fairly and effectively.

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Article 2

[Return to Headlines](#)REUTERS **USA: Miami gunshow shoppers view firearms as protection.**

By Renee Solomon

08/11/1999

Reuters English News Service

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MIAMI, Aug 11 (Reuters) - When Florida landscaper Greg Walder goes to the Southern Classic Gun & Knife Show, a weekend marketplace for rifles, pistols and other weaponry, he remembers his grandfather.

The old man, dead now, decades ago tied a bell to fishing line, stretched it at shin level across the floor of his home, and waited for a prowler who had been striking again and again in his family's neighbourhood.

One night the bell rang, the grandfather took up his rifle and shot, leaving the prowler paralysed and his grandson a life lesson.

"Criminals don't value life like I do," Walder said in an interview. "I would do everything in my power not to shoot someone, but if someone drew I would shoot."

Walder, 38, and wearing a silver hoop in each ear, was shopping for ammunition and possibly a new weapon at the Southern Classic, one of the dozens of gun shows held each year across the United States.

Gun shows such as the Southern Classic, a two-day market held four times a year in a convention hall set amid palms and next to Miami's city hall, are very much in the sights of gun-control advocates. Gun shows, they say, give unqualified buyers a way to get around the screening requirements enforced by gun shops.

A campaign last June in Congress failed to yield tighter federal regulations but a series of shootings in Colorado, Georgia and Alabama leaving dozens dead this year have convinced many Americans more gun-control is needed.

A Harris Poll concluded 73 percent of Americans now want tougher controls on handguns.

Gun-control advocates on Wednesday pointed to the latest shooting spree, this one in Los Angeles on Tuesday, as further evidence more laws are needed. A lone gunman sprayed submachine gun fire in the North Valley Jewish Community Centre, wounding five people, including three young children and a teenager.

"Us honest collectors suffer the brunt for bad people. I guess now we need hammer control. The guy in Atlanta killed his family with a hammer."

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reason other than skin color.

"It's walking while black, jogging while black ... indeed, it's living while black," he said.

The Houston mayor's announcement was welcomed by area law enforcement agencies, patrolmen's associations and civil rights groups. About 30 uniformed officers were on hand with Brown and Bradford to show their support.

"I'm delighted to hear it," said Jay Jacobson, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas. "That's a good beginning and a good example in the nation's fourth-largest city. Maybe it will catch on."

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Article 22

[Return to Headlines](#)**Houston Battles Racial Profiling**

By CHRIS FLETCHER

08/12/1999

AP Online

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HOUSTON (AP) - Police officers who stop people because of their skin color may find themselves out of a job under a new city initiative.

Joining a national push to end racial profiling, Mayor Lee Brown and Police Chief C.O. Bradford unveiled a plan Wednesday to study whether any of the city's 5,000 police officers are stopping drivers because of their race or ethnicity.

"I never want to hear any of our citizens say they were stopped solely because of driving while black," said Brown, the city's first black mayor. "What we're announcing is a proactive step, a safeguard to find out if racial profiling is occurring here."

Houston, the nation's fourth-largest city, is just of one several metropolitan cities - including San Diego and San Jose, Calif. - to attack racial profiling, which has gained national attention in the past year.

In June, President Clinton issued an executive order calling for federal law-enforcement agencies to collect race and gender data in all stops and arrests. State lawmakers around the nation have scrambled to pass similar legislation, but so far only North Carolina has enacted laws.

Houston's new program, which will begin immediately, requires officers to enter information on the race, age and gender of all people they stop or arrest into their patrol car computers. The reports will be placed in a database for review by Bradford, police managers and the department's Internal Affairs Division.

Any confirmed incidents of racial profiling could result in a guilty officer's dismissal or even criminal charges, Bradford said. Several patrolmen's associations and civil rights groups applauded the new policies.

"I'm delighted to hear it," said Jay Jacobson, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas. "That's a good beginning and a good example in the nation's fourth-largest city. Maybe it will catch on."

Lawyer Johnnie Cochran, speaking at the **National Urban League**'s annual conference Wednesday in Houston, said racial profiling is pervasive in American society.

"It's walking while black, jogging while black ... indeed, it's living while black," he said.

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Texas lawmaker calls anew for hate crimes measure

By MICHAEL HOLMES

08/12/1999

Associated Press Newswires

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AUSTIN (AP) - A Texas legislator who unsuccessfully pushed for a tougher state hate crimes law said Thursday that this week's shootings at a California Jewish community center show the need for such a measure.

"It is time to stand up to hate, not stand on the sidelines," said Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston.

Gov. George W. Bush, the Republican presidential front-runner, came under criticism in this year's legislative session from some who said he failed to show leadership on the hate crimes bill named for James Byrd Jr., a black man dragged to death in East Texas last year.

Ellis didn't mention Bush as he called for new state and federal efforts to pass laws to punish and prevent hate crimes.

"Opponents of the hate crimes legislation like to say that it's hard to tell one kind of hate from another, but when someone shoots a 5-year-old child and labels it a 'wake-up call to kill Jews,' that is malignant and unacceptable and we must have the courage to say so," Ellis said.

The Democratic-controlled Texas House this spring approved the Byrd Act, which backers said would have strengthened Texas' hate crimes law, which some officials say is too vague to enforce.

The bill died in the Republican-controlled Senate, however, and Bush was spared from having to make a decision on it.

The governor had refused to say whether he would sign or veto the bill. He said "all crime is hate crime" and noted that the first man convicted in Byrd's death received the death penalty.

But critics, including some Democrats and gay rights advocates, charged that Bush didn't want to make a decision because the bill included a victim's "sexual preference" among motives for a hate crime, along with race, ethnicity, gender, disability or religion.

The governor's presidential campaign didn't immediately return calls Thursday seeking comment on Ellis' remarks.

Bush's inaction on the hate crimes bill also was criticized by Democratic presidential hopefuls Al Gore and Bill Bradley at a **National Urban League** meeting in Houston earlier this week.

In Los Angeles, white supremacist Buford O. Furrow Jr. faced first-degree murder charges and five counts of attempted murder - all alleged as hate crimes based on race, nationality or religion.

Ellis said Furrow's case shows the need for hate crimes laws.

Article 17

[Return to Headlines](#)**Houston begins program to discourage racial profiling**

By CHRIS FLETCHER

08/12/1999

Associated Press Newswires

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HOUSTON (AP) - "Driving while black" is not a crime and any Houston police officers who think differently may soon be driven from their jobs, city officials said.

Houston Mayor Lee Brown and Police Chief C.O. Bradford unveiled a plan Wednesday to study whether any of the city's 5,000 police officer's are stopping minorities simply because of their skin color, a practice known as racial profiling.

"I never want to hear any of our citizens say they were stopped solely because of driving while black," Brown said. "What we're announcing is a proactive step, a safeguard to find out if racial profiling is occurring here."

The new program, which will begin immediately, requires officers to enter information on the race, age and gender of all people they stop or arrest into their patrol car computers. The reports will be placed in a database for review by Bradford, police managers and the department's Internal Affairs Division.

Any confirmed incidents of racial profiling could result in a guilty officer's dismissal or even criminal charges, Bradford said. Several patrolmen's associations and civil rights groups applauded the new policies.

"I'm delighted to hear it," said Jay Jacobson, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas. "That's a good beginning and a good example in the nation's fourth-largest city. Maybe it will catch on."

Houston is the latest of several metropolitan cities - including San Diego and San Jose, Calif. - to attack racial profiling, which gained national attention last year through a federal civil rights lawsuit.

A 26-year Miami police veteran claimed he was the victim of racial profiling when a white Orlando police officer stopped him in 1997 for alleged minor traffic offenses. The black officer, who was doused with pepper spray and wrestled to the ground, later was sentenced to one year of probation for resisting arrest.

In June, President Clinton issued an executive order calling for federal law enforcement agencies to collect race and gender data in all stops and arrests. State lawmakers around the nation have scrambled to pass similar legislation, but so far only North Carolina has enacted laws.

The issue was also a subject at the **National Urban League**'s annual conference Wednesday in Houston, where a panel of nationally recognized civil rights activists and experts discussed police brutality.



AUGUST 12, 05:56 EDT

Houston Battles Racial Profiling

By CHRIS FLETCHER
Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Police officers who stop people because of their skin color may find themselves out of a job under a new city initiative.

Joining a national push to end racial profiling, Mayor Lee Brown and Police Chief C.O. Bradford unveiled a plan Wednesday to study whether any of the city's 5,000 police officers are stopping drivers because of their race or ethnicity.

"I never want to hear any of our citizens say they were stopped solely because of driving while black," said Brown, the city's first black mayor. "What we're announcing is a proactive step, a safeguard to find out if racial profiling is occurring here."

Houston, the nation's fourth-largest city, is just one of several metropolitan cities — including San Diego and San Jose, Calif. — to attack racial profiling, which has gained national attention in the past year.

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Lawyer Johnnie Cochran, speaking at the National Urban League's annual conference Wednesday in Houston, said racial profiling is pervasive in American

Article 14

[Return to Headlines](#)**Tapscott snub has racial overtones**

IAN O'CONNOR

08/12/1999

Gannett News Service

FINAL

(Copyright 1999)

NEW YORK -- What is Ed Tapscott supposed to think this morning, when his mirror reflects an opportunity pilfered in the night? He has brains, a good eye, a way with the cameras and notebooks - everything corporations cherish in a young executive ... except the face in that mirror.

Hey, people lose out on jobs all the time. So what if the New York Knicks hired Scott Layden to run their team? Tapscott will get over it.

He's only 46, with history as a lawyer, agent, coach and administrator. Educated at Chelsea Clinton's prep school, Tapscott can hang a master's degree from Tufts in his office. He will earn six- and seven-figure salaries between now and retirement, when the Knicks might still be ruing the day they shook hands with someone else.

But Tapscott has to rise today to questions he was conditioned to ignore. What if I were white? What if I had the same track record and a different shade of skin?

"How can a black man be uncomfortable with racial (issues) in America?" Tapscott asked inside Madison Square Garden Wednesday, after the press conference called to announce Layden's appointment and Jeff Van Gundy's extension.

"That's a brother's reality."

And so is this: It's hard to imagine Tapscott running smack into Cablevision's corporate ceiling, watching an outsider such as Layden score a multimillion-dollar payday, if sports leagues were as color blind as they pretend to be.

"The old-boy network has outlived its usefulness," said Len Coleman, National League president. "But it's still entrenched."

Coleman made these remarks at a **National Urban League** conference Tuesday, just when Layden declared he was leapfrogging Tapscott from thousands of miles away. Layden made a predictable climb up Utah's snow-white peaks, from assistant to scout to personnel man to boss.

As Ernie Grunfeld's compass, Tapscott urged the general manager to sign Allan Houston. They assembled a team worthy of a trip to the NBA Finals, a trip Grunfeld surrendered in his blood feud with Van Gundy.

The coach likes Tapscott.

"Ed and I worked together very well," he said. But Van Gundy wouldn't have been comfortable working under a man so closely aligned with Grunfeld.

So what does he say to himself this morning, after the Knicks gave his career a cold shower? What is Ed Tapscott supposed to think when people review his resume, his diploma, his role in assembling a contender, and ask what Scott Layden had that he didn't?

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In December in Riverside, Calif., police shot a black woman in the back 12 times as she sat in her car.

That same month, a Pittsburgh police officer shot a black man in a chase. The officer said he feared being run over, but his reasoning was undermined by the finding that the motorist had been shot through the driver's side window.

In New Jersey, Gov. Christine Todd Whitman fired the state police chief after he said blacks commit more crimes. State police were already under attack for allegedly using a racial profile to stop motorists on the New Jersey Turnpike, a major drug-trafficking corridor.

In June, President Clinton directed federal law enforcement agencies to begin collecting information on the race, age and sex of people they detain, as a first step toward determining whether minorities are unfairly targeted for scrutiny. He also called on state and local police forces to do the same.

For about a month, Bradford said, Houston officers must fill out paper forms after each contact they initiate. After that, patrol cars should be modified so the form can be filed electronically.

Some aspects of the compilation and analysis of the forms are still under scrutiny, Bradford said. For instance, a method must be found to interpret the data collected from an officer assigned to a beat whose population is mostly of one race.

Any officer against whom a complaint of racial profiling is sustained will be disciplined.

"All sustained cases of racial profiling must equal a violation of civil rights, which is a felony," Bradford said. "Racial profiling is a criminal offense, and will be treated as such."

The **National Urban League** Wednesday ended its annual conference here saluting Brown for the new policy.

"What communities of color want is equal protection under the law, equal application of the law," said Hugh B. Price, executive director of the league, during a town meeting at the George R. Brown Convention Center on relations between police and minorities.

"What would it be like for whites if they were privileged to receive equal abuse under the law?" he said.

Price pointed to the Woodstock '99 festival in upstate New York last month, which ended in fires, riots and even some reported rapes.

"The state troopers had their pictures taken with naked girls," he said, "but I didn't hear about anybody getting shot by the police."

Members of the panel, which included The Rev. Al Sharpton, president of the Nation Action Network; defense attorney Johnnie Cochran and Philadelphia Police Commissioner John F. Timoney, said the profile of a criminal in America has become black, Latino or Asian.

"We're talking about policemen sworn to uphold the law that are paid by taxpayers but that see criminals based on their race, and it is tolerated because their race is black," said Sharpton. "If you had in any city of this country a black mayor, including Houston, that allowed black police to racially profile whites, you'd have emergency sessions of Congress."

Article 20

[Return to Headlines](#)**Houston aims to ensure race isn't a factor in arrests, stops**

Chris Fletcher

08/12/1999

Austin American-Statesman

Page B9

(Copyright 1999)

HOUSTON -- Houston leaders on Wednesday announced a plan to study whether the city's 5,000 police officers are stopping residents simply because of their skin color, joining a nationwide movement to end racial profiling. "We've watched the growing polarization. We've watched the issue of racial profiling go up on the radar screen, particularly with the African American and Hispanic communities, and therefore we want to be proactive," Mayor Lee Brown said.

The new program, which begins immediately, requires officers to enter information into their patrol car computers about the race, age and gender of all people they stop or arrest. The reports will be placed in a database for review by Police Chief C.O. Bradford, police managers and the department's Internal Affairs Division.

Houston is the latest of several metropolitan cities -- including San Diego and San Jose, Calif. -- to attack racial profiling, which gained national attention last year through a federal civil rights lawsuit.

A 26-year Miami police veteran claimed he was the victim of racial profiling when a white Orlando police officer stopped him in 1997 for alleged minor traffic offenses. The black officer, who was doused with pepper spray and wrestled to the ground, later was sentenced to one year on probation for resisting arrest.

In June, President Clinton issued an executive order calling for federal law enforcement agencies to collect race and gender data in all stops and arrests. State lawmakers around the nation have scrambled to pass similar legislation, but so far only North Carolina has enacted laws.

The issue also was a subject at the **National Urban League**'s annual conference Wednesday in Houston, where a panel of nationally recognized civil rights activists and experts discussed police brutality.

"(Racial profiling) is tolerated because the race is black people," said the Rev. Al Sharpton, a New York City activist and president of the National Action Network. "If you had in any city of this country -- including Houston -- a black mayor that allowed black police to racially profile whites, you'd have emergency sessions of the United States Congress to remove them."

"We are still acting like it's an academic discussion that blacks are being racially profiled," Sharpton said. "It is an absolute . . . disregard of our human rights as well as our legal and civil rights."

Attorney Johnnie Cochran said racial profiling is so pervasive in American society, it is about more than "driving while black," a term that describes stopping an African American driver for no reason other than skin color.

USA TODAY

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FRI./SAT./SUN., AUG. 13-15, 1999

Selig keeps eye on daughter

Brewers boss expected to adhere to hiring mandate

When Wendy Selig was growing up, there were times when Papa Bud had to discipline his little girl. Now she's grown up, married and running the club on her own.

Will he have to discipline her again?

She doesn't think so. Wendy Selig-Prieb has been running the Milwaukee Brewers since her father severed his connections a year ago to become baseball commissioner. Thursday, she fired manager Phil Garner and re-signed general manager Sal Bando.

Hitting coach Jim Lefebvre is the interim manager. Selig-Prieb and assistant GM Fred Stanley are handling Bando's duties.

The commissioner is watching closely.

In April, trying to force clubs to hire more minorities, he ordered owners to provide their lists of all candidates for manager, general manager, assistant general manager, and directors of player development and scouting.

Daughter Wendy is no exception. In fact, she attended a meeting April 13 at which the subject was discussed.

Following that session, Selig sent a strongly worded letter to each owner. A copy was obtained by USA TODAY.

"If a club has an opening in any of the positions, the club owner must notify me personally," Selig wrote. "In addition, your list of candidates must be provided to me. I expect the list to include minority candidates whom you and your staff have identified. I will provide assistance to you if you cannot identify candidates on your own."

Non-compliance means a heavy fine — up to \$250,000.

"My expectations in this area are very high but clearly attainable," he wrote. "Your enthusiastic and aggressive support of this initiative as well as your continued and expected support of the affirmative behavior in all your employment decisions will be regularly monitored by me."

Jerry Manuel of the Chicago White Sox is the only minority manager hired since 1992, when Don Baylor, Felipe Alou, Tony Perez and Dusty Baker were appointed.

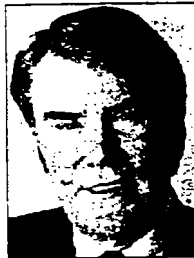
Dad says if Wendy doesn't abide, "I'll come down hard on her. I don't expect a problem because she's very well-disciplined."

Selig says he seldom, if ever, had to discipline Wendy. "She was just a great kid," he says. "The biggest prob-

lem I had was every time I got in my car to go to the ballpark she wanted to go with me. She had a great intensity for the game; she really learned it from the time she was 5, 6, 7 years old."

★Coleman agrees: NL President Len Coleman, who spoke Tuesday at the National Urban League Convention in Houston, is baseball's highest-ranking minority.

Coleman says baseball has made significant progress in middle-level positions, "but certainly not in top-level positions."



BASEBALL

By Hal Bodley

A deadline: There's another deadline involving the Montreal Expos.

Club president Claude Brochu, embroiled in a dispute with a group trying to put together a financial plan and get a downtown stadium, has set Sept. 30 as the deadline to pay him \$15 million for his 7.2% of the franchise.

Brochu faxed all documents, which were completed Aug. 6, to Selig this week.

Essentially, if the group headed by Jacques Menard is successful in gaining approval from MLB to keep the team in Montreal, Brochu will sell.

"I've said all along for this to happen the team must remain in Montreal," said Brochu.

In all likelihood, the Sept. 30 deadline will be the same for Selig to declare the status of the Expos for 2000. Tentative approval may be granted during owners meetings Sept. 14-17 in Cooperstown, N.Y.

Around the horn: Through Wednesday, Arizona's Matt Williams is the NL leader for the new Hank Aaron Award. Based on 145 hits, 26 homers and 104 runs batted in, Williams has 275 points, followed by Chicago's Sammy Sosa (268) and Houston's Jeff Bagwell (262). Cleveland's Manny Ramirez, at 272, leads the AL. Toronto's Shawn Green (268) is second and the Texas Rangers' Rafael Palmeiro (266) third. ... Selig hopes to complete the sale of Marge Schott's shares of the Cincinnati Reds to a group of limited partners during the Cooperstown meetings. ... Give the Texas Rangers credit for aggressive marketing to attract more Hispanic fans. The team is holding its first Hispanic Nights promotion Sept. 17.

The problem, despite Bush's protestations to the contrary, is that Texas has too frequently provided the wrong model.

Caption: Photo of George W. Bush

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100 percent mortgage guarantees for credit-worthy working-class minority families.

(10) Equalize access to capital by eliminating discriminatory business loan practices.

To repeat, these are not unreasonable proposals. My "commandments" are not meant to supplant his, only to get us focused on what we can do for ourselves while we're waiting for society to "do the right thing."

Here are mine:

(1) Use every available platform to get parents to understand the power they possess (or that we could help them acquire) to get their children off to a good start in school.

(2) Use the resources at our command to persuade our people to stop their unhealthful ways. The things most likely to jeopardize our health today are not the uncontrollables like the bubonic plague, malaria and polio, but our own choices. Smoking, illicit drugs, sexually transmitted diseases all are greater menaces than health threats from the outside world.

(3) Let all parents, rich or poor, instill in their children the importance of good citizenship -- from sandbox to ballot box and jury box.

(4) Never cease preaching to our young people the importance of staying in school.

(5) Get more of our children ready for post-secondary education by insisting that they take real advantage of the educational opportunities already available to them -- including free public education.

(6) Never let our children forget the importance of work -- even at dirty and underpaid jobs. Work, because it teaches discipline, alters habits and attitudes, fires ambition, lets us know where our preparation falls short and exposes us to other opportunities, is the best cure for unemployment in our community.

(7) Encourage parents to skip a couple of pairs of Nikes and use the money to buy a used computer for their children. Let them ask those of us who work at office jobs to keep our eyes open for computer bargains.

(8) If our children have the mental and academic wherewithal for college, let's get them in school somewhere. Sure they'll earn more if they can get into Harvard, but they'll earn a lot less if they don't extend their education -- technical or academic -- beyond high school.

(9) Teach our young people the importance of acquiring some "bricks." They have to live somewhere, so they might as well live in an economic investment. The things they've been buying -- designer clothes, gold chains, leather coats and fine cars -- all are worth more

Kicking Out The Archbishop

How U.S. pressure led to the ouster of a prelate



THE ARCHBISHOP'S FALL had a bit of everything: a sex scandal, an Internet cabal and even a Stephanopoulos. Not to mention speed. Last week, three short years after the Greek Orthodox Patriarch in Istanbul installed Ohio-born Archbishop Spyridon, leader of 1.5 million American believers, Spyridon bitterly gave his resignation. It was as if the body religious had rejected a transplanted organ.

Spyridon first alarmed his flock in early 1997, when one of his appointees reassigned seminary staff members who had recommended expelling a priest involved in a homosexual-harassment complaint. Critics claim Spyridon wanted to hush the case up. They also said he was traditionalist and high-handed, espousing monastic beards and ceremonial hats for priests and castigating American touches like female choir participation. When more than 100 priests—including the Rev. Robert Stephanopoulos, a popular Manhattan cleric and George's father—signed a letter criticizing him, he handed Stephanopoulos a *de facto* demotion. A dissident campaign sprang up, organized via websites. Its message, says Dean Poppo, a leader, was, "This guy's gotta go." In January all five U.S. senior bishops publicly agreed, flying to Constantinople (as the Greek Church still calls Istanbul) to petition Patriarch Bartholomew I. He told them that Spyridon would be Archbishop "until he dies."

Last week Bartholomew apparently rethought. Spyridon's successor is Demetrios Trakatellis, 71, a Greek senior bishop with a Harvard degree. The reversal's immediate cause may have been fiscal: American congregations had begun withholding contributions to the church. But a larger issue looms. Spyridon's predecessor considered founding, with other Eastern believers, an American Orthodox Church—a step away from Constantinople's authority that some still find attractive. "The mother raises the daughter, but eventually the daughter leaves home," says Poppo. Bartholomew may have hoped his prickly prelate would forestall such talk. But in the end Spyridon may only have spurred dissent—and thus had to go himself.

—By David Van Biema

DIVIDING LINE

Jack E. White

A Real, Live Bigot

A former leftist earns a place on the wild-eyed right

LAST WEEK, JUST WHEN I WAS STARTING TO BE WORRIED THAT, IN MY OLD AGE, I was "Tomming out" because of my qualms about affirmative action, I ran across a column by a prominent right-wing ideologue named David Horowitz on Salon.com and felt young and militant again. It reminded me that blatant bigotry is alive and well, even on one of the Internet's otherwise most humane and sophisticated websites. So many racists, so little time!

Like all good propaganda, Horowitz's piece, titled "Guns don't kill black people, other blacks do," started plausibly, with a critique of the N.A.A.C.P.'s lawsuit against gun manufacturers. Why, he asked, should gun companies, instead of the killers, be held accountable for the appalling rate of black-on-black homicide? But that pointed query was merely a launching point for Horowitz's real message: a blanket assault on the alleged moral failures of African Americans so strident and accusatory that it made the antiblack rantings of Dinesh D'Souza seem like models of fair-minded social analysis.

The N.A.A.C.P. lawsuit, Horowitz contends, is part of an insidious campaign by black leaders to create a "politically inspired group psychosis [in which] we find it natural to collude with demagogic race hustlers in supporting a fantasy in which African Americans are no longer responsible for anything negative they do, even to themselves." Shaking down guilt-feeling whites, he says, has allowed "racial ambulance chasers" like Jesse Jackson and the N.A.A.C.P.'s Kweisi Mfume to live like millionaires. If blacks are really oppressed in America, he asks, "why isn't there a black exodus?"

Well, what does Horowitz want us to do, go back to Africa? Is he really unaware of concerted attempts by African-American civil rights leaders, clergy-

men, educators and elected officials to persuade young black men and women to take more responsibility for their actions? Just two weeks ago, at the National Urban League convention in Houston, I heard Jesse Jackson preach a passionate sermon on that theme. In fact, he and other black leaders have been dwelling on such issues for years.

Horowitz's slander wouldn't matter

much if he spoke only for himself. But for the past three decades, Horowitz, 60, has been a conduit through which extreme political ideas gain access to the mainstream. During a previous incarnation as a leftist radical in the '70s, he was the editor who put a picture of a burning bank building on the cover of *Ramparts* magazine with the line, "The students who burned the Bank of America may have done more toward saving the environment than all the teach-ins put together." And the guy who continued to raise thousands of dollars for the Black Panther Party for years after everybody else had figured out that its leader Huey P. Newton was no revolutionary but a dangerous thug. During the 1980s Horowitz began to embrace the Ridiculous Right as passionately as he had once clung to the Lunatic Left. He founded the Center for the Study of Popular Culture, based in Los Angeles, whose purpose is to make inroads for conservatism in notoriously liberal Hollywood. Last week Horowitz told me that he had earned the right to talk down to blacks "because of all I did in the '60s." I think we'd all be better off if he'd just shut up. ■



LENIN BE GONE Horowitz's beat is now conservative

NATIONAL REPORT

National Urban League Sets Agenda For Blacks' Equality And Power In New Millennium During 1999 Convention



▲ National Urban League (NUL) President Hugh Price addresses opening session of the organization's 1999 conference in Houston. At right, Price is joined in opening the conference's Exhibit Hall by (l-r) Jonathan S. Linen, NUL Board chairman and vice chairman of American Express Co., and Steven L. Miller, conference general chairperson and chairman, president and CEO of Shell Oil Company.

"Equality and Power For The New Millennium," was the theme of the National Urban League's (NUL) recent 1999 Conference at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston.

And during NUL President Hugh Price's opening address, he put forth a plan for the year 2000 and beyond

that political leaders must adopt in order to foster equality and share power among the nation's "haves and have nots," along economic, academic and racial lines.

"To make our nation work—the most diverse and interdependent country in the history of humankind—America must lower the gangplank and help everyone on board. The most dangerous thing we can do is to hoist the gangplank of opportunity and try sailing off into the 21st century without all hands on deck," Price told the 3,400 members gathered in the convention center's main hall.

"The National Urban League's agenda lays the groundwork for putting equality into practice," Price



NATIONAL REPORT



▲ During the four day conference in Houston, National Urban League members were addressed by presidential candidates (l-r) Vice President Al Gore, Texas Gov. George W. Bush and former Sen. Bill Bradley.

said as he introduced his following "Ten Opportunity Commandments for the 21st Century":

1. Provide quality pre-school education for all children
2. Provide affordable health care for all Americans who are uninsured.
3. Transform every public school serving poor children into accountable institutions whose pupils are equipped for self-reliance and citizenship. Expand the availability to after-school and summer programs that promote achievement, polish youngsters' social skills and keep them out of trouble.
4. Vastly increase support for proven programs that get school drop-outs back on track
5. Guarantee universal access to

affordable higher education by reversing the alarming disinvestment in public colleges and universities and slashing tuition for needy students.

6. Maintain national economic policies that promote economic growth in poor communities.

7. Eliminate the digital divide by utilizing tax credits for families or tax write-offs for corporations to make the acquisition of computers and use of the Internet affordable for every American family.

8. Assure full participation of minorities in higher education, employment and contracting.

9. Eradicate the home-ownership gap along ethnic lines by providing 100 percent mortgage guarantees for credit-worthy, working-class minor-