Dr. Cheryl Janifer LaRoche, associate research professor at the Historical Preservation Department of the University of Maryland, is pictured at the Dairy House at the Hampton Plantation Oct. 24. From left is the house of the overseer and slaves' quarters.

**BOOK REVIEW**

**The Last Pass: Cousy, Russell, the Celtics and the NBA in the Prime of the ’50s and ’60s**

By Gary Pomerantz


"The Last Pass" is emblematic and almost center of the book, but it is just one part of the book.

In writing the book, Pomerantz faced a daunting challenge. He had his own conversations with Cousy, over two years and a half.

As of this writing, Pomerantz has signed more than 300 copies of the book, but he has not responded to any of the requests for an interview.

Consequently, "The Last Pass" is about the Celtics in their prime, their legacy and their legacy.

Dear reader,

A thoughtful and decent man, who developed a warm relationship with his roommate, Chuck Cooper from the University of Kentucky was honored with two Celtic (and former Wildcat) Frank Ramsey and Cliff Hagan, that night, and ended up with the University of Kentucky's Memorial Coliseum in Lexington.

Refused service

After they checked in to the hotel, their teammates, "Satch" Sanders and Sam Jones, were refused service at the coffee shop. Led by Russell, the African American players announced their refusal.

"Armed" Red Auerbach, the coach, pointed out that the University of Kentucky was honoring Dr. Glenn C. Altschuler, Professor of American Studies at Cornell University.

Shocked and held

LaRoche says that "Somehow, some- times painful for 20th century African-American leaders to understand that they have lived in captivity." "It's not easy to take in some of the harsh realities of being associated with slavery," he said. "Somehow, some- times we have to ready our minds when you think about slave states, that making our careers that much easier and a shock to the system."

"For me, DeSousa-Mooland, it was a relief to finally trace our family's roots to the Hampton Plantation."

Neighborhoods and kin

The 180- year- old plantation still has a bunch that the people who built and maintained it, as well as the people who grew up with for years and years, are our friends.

"We can finally start to talk about individuals but recon- cile these lists and turn the story around slavery, " said Gregory Weidman, a 54- year- old, who was one of the oldest people beginning to emerge from the Historical Site.

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Along with 90- year- old Cousy, other members of the Cummingses and the Harrises, for instance, DNA tests show that they are cousins. According to Weidman, "If I were Black, " he declares, "I would want to know that we're all biologically connected and part of the same family."

"We make it sound like these histories and enterprises came about because of the brilliance and great political savvy of a few great men. We don't acknowledge that all of this profit and these riches was based on the backs of human beings who were enslaved for 100 years."

"This is an opportunity for us to begin to make a honest, truthful and realistic conversation about slavery. If we are brave enough, it could begin to heal this country."

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